



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire.
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is in circulation and reputation the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades in the British Empire and other countries in the Old and New Worlds. It is the official journal of nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies.

Subscription Rates.

Ten shillings a year in advance, post free to any part of the world, including a copy of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* next published. Subscriptions may begin any month. Single copy, 6d.; Summer or Winter Number, 1s. *Diary*, 3s. 6d. Postal orders and cheques to be crossed "Martin's Bank (Limited)."

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IDEAL INSET DISTRIBUTION.

There are various ways of distributing circulars and price-lists, but the ideal method eliminates waste. That is why there is such a demand every half-year for space in the

Winter Issue

and Summer Number of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. Advertisers of chemists' merchandise know that they can distribute in these issues 12,000 insets that pay over and over again for their production and distribution. The insets can be stitched in to form part of the Issue; they may be produced in any colour, and they are placed only before buyers of the goods to be sold—not scattered broadcast. The Publisher will be glad to have definite instructions for advertising in the Winter Issue which is to be published on

January 25, 1913.

SUMMARY.

Being a first glance at the articles and events reported in this Issue.

Articles and Communications.

Interesting observations by a Japanese worker on the relative activity of digitalis leaves, flowers, and fruit will be found on p. 50.

Fifty years ago Joseph Ince advocated that the Pharmaceutical Society should make galenicals standardised and branded (p. 64).

In a communication printed on the next page, Mr. J. Kruyssse, a Dutch chemist, describes a new method for the assay of quinine in cinchona-bark.

Some reminiscences of the business of Messrs. Ransom, of Hitchin, are given on p. 53, in view of its conversion into a private limited company (p. 41).

Fashions change in advertising as in other human matters, and F. A. Degen tells, in a seasonable article, about some of the old notions that should be avoided (p. 34).

Artificial Peru balsam is appearing on the market as natural. We quote from an article by a German chemist to show how the substitution can be detected (p. 34).

Correspondents write about Insurance dispensing, the courtesy of chemists, pharmacy's failings, the need of a chemists' union, and other topical subjects. We reply to many Insurance dispensing problems, and to queries on difficulties in shop practice (p. 61).

"Realisation" is the subject of a first article of a series on "A New Epoch in Pharmacy," and shows the bearing of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, on the National Insurance Act, and how the latter has brought about what our pharmaceutical leaders failed to get before it (p. 48).

National Insurance Act.

We print a first instalment of postcard ideas for getting dispensing business (p. 46).

Chemists' panels have been formed in all counties and towns of Great Britain, with one or two exceptions. See the notes beginning on p. 42.

Mr. Lloyd George's statement to the Advisory Committee on Thursday leaves Insurance Act dispensing arrangements where they were (p. 44).

Questions in Parliament are reported under Westminster Wisdom, including a note on a debate about contracting-out initiated by Sir Philip Magnus (p. 55).

News of the Week.

Sunday is not a week-day under the Shops Act (p. 41).

Mr. James Boulton, the chemical manufacturer, died last week (p. 56).

Several men whose names are familiar to chemists appear in the New Year honours list (p. 35).

A chemist has been fined under the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, in respect to the sale of hydrochloric acid (p. 41).

What they are doing in China to cure the opium-habit, and in France to stamp out the drug-habit, is told on p. 38.

The discussion in the Australian Parliament on "Secret Remedies" is printed on p. 39. (See also Coloured Supplement.)

Dr. C. L. Alsberg has been appointed successor to Dr. H. W. Wiley as chief of the U.S.A. Bureau of Chemistry. His portrait is on p. 40.

Sir James Dewar, F.R.S., is delivering an interesting series of science lectures to children, the first two of which are summarised on p. 52.

For a synopsis of the three post-graduate lectures which Professor Hewlett is to give under the auspices of the Pharmaceutical Society see p. 37.

Trade and Market Matters.

The principal features of the heavy-chemical markets during 1912 are referred to in a special article in our Trade Report section (p. 60).

Business on the produce markets has been almost at a standstill since our last, but next week trading will be more normal. Santonin, guinea grains, clove, lemon, and sandalwood oils are dearer. Quinine is firmer; glucose and arsenic are easier (p. 57).

Quinine Assay.

By P. J. Kruysse.

THE author has been experimenting for some time with the object of utilising the insolubility of quinine nitroprusside as a means of separating it from other cinchona alkaloids. As a result of these researches, the following method for the direct assay of quinine in cinchona-bark is proposed:

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Collect the crystals on a filter, washing the beaker and the filter with water in small amounts. Press the filter with the crystals between layers of filter-paper, and dry at 100° C. Multiply the weight of the crystals by 1.05, add to this product 0.05 gram (equivalent of 20 mgm. quinine sulphate lost as oxalate, and 30 mgm. as nitroprusside). The result thus obtained is the weight of the quinine sulphate in 5 grams of bark.

Peru Balsam.

In view of the extent to which synthetic Peru balsam is now manufactured, this abstract of an article by Ludwig Kroeber in the "Apotheker Zeitung" (1912, 974) is of special interest.

WHEN examining some samples of Peru balsam my attention was drawn to the fact that one sample was dull with chloral-hydrate solution, in contrast to the others, where a perfectly clear solution was obtained. The possible objection that the chloral hydrate used might have been damp was guarded against. Equal parts of spirit of wine and the balsam gave a clear mixture. It is important that the directions for carrying out the tests should be carefully observed, as pure balsams are liable to give cloudy mixtures if different proportions of spirit and balsam are used. Synthetic balsam at first dissolves clear with equal parts of spirit of wine, then further addition [of spirit] leads to cloudiness, and after a while to a resinous separation. Further analyses showed that the suspicious sample had the following characters:

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By F. A. Degen.

THIS is the season for mental as well as for other stock-taking, and now is the time to make plans that will ensure a prosperous New Year. In no other department of commercial life do the wheels of progress revolve more rapidly than in advertising. In the intelligent use of this great force the chemist and druggist has always taken the lead. Compare this kind of advertising with others, and its average superiority will not be disputed. There is every reason why this should continue, providing that the chemist and druggist realises that, like all things of vital importance, advertising methods are subject to change. The way a proposition was successfully presented yesterday will not have the same effect to-day.

The changes in advertising have all been for the better. It is hard to believe that only twenty years ago valuable space was used in childishly reiterating a mere name. We are also to be congratulated upon the passing of the "before and after" pictures. Many must remember the gentleman or lady with an unnatural amount of cheek on one side of the face who appeared on one part of the page, while on the other a cadaverous-looking individual, wearing a most ingratiating leer, proclaimed the wonderful effects of Blank's Toothache-drops. This and similar gems of advertising are no longer fashionable, and for small mercies a long-suffering public is duly thankful.

The rage for the pretty girl will continue as long as the love of beauty lasts, but this fashion of advertising is not quite so general as it was about five years ago. The lady still smiles and shows her even, white teeth, or poses to display her figure, but she does not monopolise the public attention to the exclusion of the mere man as she did formerly.

A fashion now happily on the wane, as far as the best advertisers are concerned, is that of presenting pictures of people in various stages of physical agony. It is a hideous experience to open an innocent-looking envelope, and to find staring at you with miserable eyes a lady with her forehead tied up, or a gentleman suffering the tortures

inflicted by gout. Headaches are usually given to the fair sex and gout to the men—why, no one has yet explained. Another unpleasant experience is to receive the photograph of an unknown gentleman offering a pill and accurately describing all the pains from which you have suffered for ages. All these forms of publicity are ignored by the better class of advertisers to-day, for they revolt people with sensitive nerves and are not as effective as other forms of appeal. They are used mainly by those who are too lazy to pull themselves out of a rut.

An increasing use of the imagination may be noticed in up-to-date publicity. This has added the element of interest to advertisements. The appeal to the imagination often scores when more matter-of-fact methods fail, for even in the most commonplace individuals there remains an element of childishness that is always captivated by the unusual or the unexpected.

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CHEMISTS' WINDOWS.

New ideas for dressing windows are invited. Photographs of windows sent to the Editor for reproduction should be accompanied by notes on how the displays were arranged.



A Christmas Window

arranged by Mr. J. Cleworth, 56 Ducie Street, Manchester, S.W. It was a greater success than anything of the same nature which he has had before. The top portion, "Useful Presents," "Special Xmas Show," and "Welcome Gifts," was in the form of a big poster. The two cards, "We will give" and "Our prices," he printed himself. The three frames with the lettering "Largest Stock in Greenheys," "All are good; we recommend them," "At Lowest Cash Prices," were white cut-out lettering, with pale blue base, the centre one being air-brush finished black round the white letters on the blue ground. These made very effective transparencies at night with the light behind them. Mr. Cleworth had a very good selection of bottles of perfumes and cases from 6d. up to 7s. 6d. The X on the three bottom panes, being made with bright red silk ribbon, was very effective. The leading features of the display were soap "Teddy Bears" and soap dogs (representing the King's dog Caesar), which were given away to every purchaser who spent 1s. or over.

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

It is reported that Mr. Lindbald, a Swedish engineer, now residing in St. Helens, has discovered a method of making potash by melting felspar with coal and iron in an electric furnace.

The medicated-wine licence held by Mr. Daniel Haworth, at 51 Stanley Street, Bury, has been transferred by the Bury (Lancs) Bench to Messrs. John Haworth and John Ratcliffe Airey.

"Kemp's Mercantile Gazette" reports that there were seventy-four failures of chemists and druggists in 1912, against sixty-two in 1911. The deeds of arrangement were fewer—fifty-one against fifty-eight.

The Local Government Board has sanctioned the proposal of the St. Pancras Guardians to increase the salary of Mr. W. E. Miller, pharmacist, to 200l. per annum (C. & D., December 14, 1912, index folio 894).

The Council of Hartley University College, Southampton, have appointed Dr. Alexander Hill, formerly Master of Downing College, Cambridge, and Vice-Chancellor of the University for two years, Principal of the College, at a salary of 1,000l. per annum.

Two chemists in the High Street of Old Portsmouth received unenviable attentions on Boxing Day. Mr. C. Moorshead had two of his windows broken by a private in the Army Ordnance Corps, who put a Christmas twirl on his cane, while Mr. H. H. Bailey had his pharmacy flooded on the record high tide. His "tide board" was short by inches, and admitted an overflow.

The pharmacy of Mr. H. J. Sadler, High Street, Cowes, I.W., is exactly opposite the Fountain Pier and on a level with it. The site has many business advantages and a few natural disadvantages, the latter being illustrated on Boxing Day when a tidal wave dashed against the pier and flooded Mr. Sadler's pharmacy to the depth of 11 in., doing considerable damage to the stock that it reached. The water kept at the level for nearly two hours, this being the record of the past thirty-five years.

At Moresby Church on December 22, there was dedicated a beautiful stained-glass window, of which Mr. W. H. Gass, chemist and druggist, of Whitehaven, is the principal donor. The subject depicted is "Christ walking on the sea." A brass tablet below the window is inscribed as follows: "The above window was erected in 1912 by Walter Herbert Gass, son-in-law, and the nephews and nieces of the late Captain Wilson Hewitt, who died August 7, 1898, aged seventy-five, and Ruth, his wife, who died June 1, 1896, aged sixty-seven. Betty Gass, their daughter, died June 2, 1912, aged forty-three."

New Year Honours.

The list of New Year honours announced on December 31 is a comparatively short one, including two new peers, two Privy Councillors, two Irish Privy Councillors, seven baronets, and eighteen knights. There are but few distinctions which have been granted to men of science.

Mr. James Key Caird, LL.D., who has been made a baronet, is the Dundee jute merchant who gave 10,000l. to the British Association last year. He also endowed a tuberculosis and cancer hospital at Dundee.

Sir Frank Crisp, who is raised to the baronetage, has been Treasurer and Vice-President of the Linnean Society for twenty-five years. He is also Hon. Secretary of the Royal Microscopical Society, microscopy and horticulture being his hobbies. He is senior partner of the firm of Messrs. Ashurst, Morris, Crisp & Co., solicitors, London.

Dr. Francis Darwin, F.R.S., who has been knighted, is the third son of the famous scientist, Charles Darwin. He was Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society from 1903 to 1907, and President of the British Association in 1908. His chief researches have been in physiological botany.

Dr. Robert William Philip, F.R.S.E., another new knight, is Physician to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and is well known for his work on the prevention of tuberculosis.

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The Local Government Board has sanctioned the proposal of the St. Pancras Guardians to increase the salary of Mr. W. E. Miller, pharmacist, to 200l. per annum (C. & D., December 14, 1912, index folio 894).

The Council of Hartley University College, Southampton, have appointed Dr. Alexander Hill, formerly Master of Downing College, Cambridge, and Vice-Chancellor of the University for two years, Principal of the College, at a salary of 1,000l. per annum.

Two chemists in the High Street of Old Portsmouth received unenviable attentions on Boxing Day. Mr. C. Moorshead had two of his windows broken by a private in the Army Ordnance Corps, who put a Christmas twirl on his cane, while Mr. H. H. Bailey had his pharmacy flooded on the record high tide. His "tide board" was short by inches, and admitted an overflow.

The pharmacy of Mr. H. J. Sadler, High Street, Cowes, I.W., is exactly opposite the Fountain Pier and on a level with it. The site has many business advantages and a few natural disadvantages, the latter being illustrated on Boxing Day when a tidal wave dashed against the pier and flooded Mr. Sadler's pharmacy to the depth of 11 in., doing considerable damage to the stock that it reached. The water kept at the level for nearly two hours, this being the record of the past thirty-five years.

At Moresby Church on December 22, there was dedicated a beautiful stained-glass window, of which Mr. W. H. Gass, chemist and druggist, of Whitehaven, is the principal donor. The subject depicted is "Christ walking on the sea." A brass tablet below the window is inscribed as follows: "The above window was erected in 1912 by Walter Herbert Gass, son-in-law, and the nephews and nieces of the late Captain Wilson Hewitt, who died August 7, 1898, aged seventy-five, and Ruth, his wife, who died June 1, 1896, aged sixty-seven. Betty Gass, their daughter, died June 2, 1912, aged forty-three."

New Year Honours.

The list of New Year honours announced on December 31 is a comparatively short one, including two new peers, two Privy Councillors, two Irish Privy Councillors, seven baronets, and eighteen knights. There are but few distinctions which have been granted to men of science.

Mr. James Key Caird, LL.D., who has been made a baronet, is the Dundee jute merchant who gave 10,000l. to the British Association last year. He also endowed a tuberculosis and cancer hospital at Dundee.

Sir Frank Crisp, who is raised to the baronetage, has been Treasurer and Vice-President of the Linnean Society for twenty-five years. He is also Hon. Secretary of the Royal Microscopical Society, microscopy and horticulture being his hobbies. He is senior partner of the firm of Messrs. Ashurst, Morris, Crisp & Co., solicitors, London.

Dr. Francis Darwin, F.R.S., who has been knighted, is the third son of the famous scientist, Charles Darwin. He was Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society from 1903 to 1907, and President of the British Association in 1908. His chief researches have been in physiological botany.

Dr. Robert William Philip, F.R.S.E., another new knight, is Physician to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and is well known for his work on the prevention of tuberculosis.

Dr. Duncan Hilston, retired Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets, who was formerly in charge of Haslar Hospital, a former Companion of the Bath, is now made a K.C.B.

Mr. Stewart Stockman, M.R.C.V.S., who is to be knighted, is brother of Professor Ralph Stockman, of Glasgow University. He is Chief Veterinary Officer to the Board of Agriculture, and is son-in-law of Sir John McFadyen, Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, London.

The Colonial Office list includes the appointment of Dr. Wyndham Rowland Dunstan, F.R.S., to be a Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Railway Demurrage Charges.

The railway companies have agreed to meet the representatives of Chambers of Commerce on the question of the proposed additional demurrage charges on waggons and sheets (see *C. & D.*, December 21, index folio 904). The conference will probably also discuss the question of the proposed new regulations with regard to the addressing of goods sent by rail, as to which representations have recently been made to the companies by various Chambers of Commerce.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The Middlesex medical officer (Dr. C. W. F. Young), in his annual report for 1911, just issued, states that during that period the following informal samples were analysed: White precipitate 45 (6 were also taken formally), glycerin 39, olive oil 8, camphorated oil 6, paregoric 4, eucalyptus oil 4, castor oil 2, and 1 each of citric acid, salicylic acid, tartaric acid, strong solution of ferric chloride, syrup of iron phosphate with quinine and strychnine, zinc ointment, non-alcoholic tincture of opium, tincture of orange, and zinc oxide. Twenty prescriptions were taken formally. Several samples of white-precipitate ointment, six prescriptions, one sample of glycerin, and one of camphorated oil, the strong solution of ferric chloride, and the syrup of iron phosphate with quinine and strychnine were found to be adulterated.

The Wellcome Historical Medical Exhibition.

In connection with the International Medical Congress to be held in London next summer will be an exhibition of rare and curious objects relating to medicine, chemistry, pharmacy, and the allied sciences, organised by Mr. Henry S. Wellcome. Besides medical and surgical objects, there will be special exhibits in pharmacy and in botany. A complete illustrated syllabus will be forwarded to anyone interested on application to the Secretary, 54A Wigmore Street, London, W.

Contracts.

Gravesend Education Committee.—Mr. A. A. Gillett, Ph.C., Gravesend, appointed chemist for a year.

Lewes Guardians.—Boots, Ltd., for one year's supply of drugs and surgical appliances.

Warwick Guardians.—Mr. C. Pratt, chemist, Warwick, for drugs, at 22l. 2s. 9d.

Bridlington Town Council.—Mrs. Gatenby, of Bridlington, appointed chemist for a year.

Guisborough Urban Council.—Mr. J. W. Frank, pharmacist, Guisborough, appointed chemist for six months.

Chatham Town Council has accepted the following tenders: Lane & Son, for sponges, at 9s. per doz.; Coulson Bros., toilet soap, 9½d. per doz.; best primrose soap, 1l. 18s. per cwt.; Sanitas Co., Ltd., for Sanitas powder, at 10l. per ton; blocks for water-vans, 9s. per doz.; formalin tablets, 2s. 3d. per lb.; green manganate of soda, 30s. per cwt.; sulphur candles, 1½d. per lb.; formaldehyde, 40-per-cent., 4s. 6d. per gal.; Lawes' Chemical Manure Co., Ltd., for Lawes' powder, at 5l. per ton.

Liverpool Notes.

The "Evening Express" of December 28 has an article on petty pilfering, especially in relation to chemists' shops. Arrangements of mirrors and peep-holes through partitions are mentioned as means of detecting thefts.

Suburban chemists have made excellent Christmas-tide window-shows, many quite equal to the high standard set by the town shops. Everywhere "takings" have

gone up, and the "family" chemists, from all reports, appear to have shared in present prosperity.

Messrs. W. H. Clubb & Co., Ltd., 138 Smithdown Road, Sefton Park, have a fine display of perfumery and toilet-soaps, one window being devoted to fancy goods. At their pharmacy at 4 Greenbank Road a pleasing colour effect is produced by means of old gold silk ribbons being arranged latticewise. The window contents consist of perfumes, cut-glass sprays, and vacuum flasks, large posters drawing attention to the fact that prices are 20 per cent. below city prices. Another chemist who has adopted the lattice device is Mr. G. V. C. Last, 187A Lodge Lane, behind which he has arranged a good display of Zenobia perfumery. One shelf devoted to night-scented stock is backed up by a bowl filled with artificial flowers. A display of Kent's hair-brushes fills another window. Mr. D. H. Evans, Lodge Lane, has a unique display, with four Santa Claus posters at the sides. The window is draped in red, with dark-red cretonne curtains at the back. Posters, "Presents that Please," "Gifts at all Prices," draw attention to their display of perfumery and general toilet articles. Mr. W. G. Roberts, 441 Smithdown Road, curtains his window with sedate-looking, dark-maroon material of dignified appearance. The window-centre is occupied by a large toilet-case containing silver-backed articles ticketed at 4 guineas. Pairs of silver-backed hair-brushes at 27s. 6d. and 28s. 6d. per pair are also shown; while there is a general display of hair-brushes, manicure sets, Grossmith's perfumery, etc., suitable for Christmas presents. This display looks well. Mr. Ernest Prebble, Kensington, has a special show of Christmas perfumery by Piver, Grossmith, and other makers. Fancy soaps complete the show. Messrs. S. Stephenson, Ltd., Kensington, are making a special display of Vinolia perfumery in fancy cases; while Mr. Thos. M. Lloyd, Holt Road, is making a good display of combination boxes of perfume and fancy soaps, as well as perfumes in bottles at popular prices. Mr. W. J. Axe, Wavertree Road, shows Grossmith's Shem-el-Nessim to advantage, with safety-razors, shavers' sets, etc. Banner's Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Smithdown Lane, make a show of hand-mirrors, shaving sets, manicures, safety-razors, and combination boxes of two tablets of soap and one bottle of perfume. Other chemists whose Christmas displays are worthy of mention are Pickering Jones, Smithdown Road; Mr. Pugh, Smithdown Road; H. Lomax, Edge Lane; Vincent Strawson, Moss Street; Mr. Corrie, West Derby Road; and Mr. Stephens, Fairfield.

Manchester Notes.

The January meeting of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, which was to have been held on the 8th inst., has been postponed until a later date, as it is thought the subject "Trade Topics" can better be discussed after the commencement of Insurance work and its attendant troubles.

The long-expected agreement from the Clerk to the Manchester Insurance Committee, which every chemist is anxiously waiting for, has not yet arrived (Tuesday night), although everyone has received a postcard from the indefatigable Secretary, Mr. G. A. Mallinson, stating that the agreement must be signed, stamped, and sent to the Clerk by return of post, or their name will not appear on the panel.

Manchester chemists have on the whole made a poor show of Christmas goods in their windows, with a few exceptions. The city pharmacies have had displays quite up to the usual standard of excellence, and good business has been general. Messrs. Midgley, St. Ann's Square, had a fine series of Dumas' perfumery. Manicures from 5s. to 50s. were also prominent. Messrs. Blain & Hankinson filled their window with a nice assortment of perfumes, soaps, and toilet requisites. Messrs. Mottershead & Co. had in their window as a centrepiece a casket model of the "famous Chasse of Ambazac, said by experts to be worth 2,000l." This was surrounded by fancy cases of perfumery. Messrs. Thompson & Capper, Ltd., had special shows in their shops. Messrs. Westmacott & Son, Market Street; Bryan & Spedding, Deansgate; M. Fedderman, Oxford Street, are others making special seasonable shows.

Midland Notes.

Wolverhampton Grammar School, which boasts of having Abernethy as a pupil, is about to celebrate its four-hundredth anniversary.

According to the Birmingham Press, the town of Leamington is passing through a prosperous time, as there is not a single shop to be let.

The following advertisement appeared in the "Birmingham Daily Post" of last Saturday: "Dispenser (lady) used to hospital or doctor's dispensary, for suburban chemist's shop; whole time, or evening only." It looks as if the pharmacist is getting ready for Insurance dispensing.

From Various Courts.

A summons against Joseph A. Kidley, Carlton, for selling deteriorated sweet spirit of nitre, was dismissed by the Selby Magistrates last week.

Mr. Thomas F. Spivey, chemist, Howden, E. Riding, was fined 1*l.*, including costs, on December 28, for selling ammoniated tincture of quinine deficient in quinine.

At the inquest at St. Pancras, London, on William Ponsford (21), chemist's assistant, Seymour Street, St. Pancras, who was injured last June by a motor omnibus and had since been in the London Temperance Hospital, the medical evidence showed that death was due to exhaustion and blood-poisoning, following injury to the spine.

At Huddersfield Police Court last week, Harry Ingleson, *alias* Frank Raven, described as an oil-merchant, late of Bradford, was committed for trial on a charge of obtaining credit by fraud. It was stated that the defendant obtained goods by representing that he was a soap-manufacturer, but the only connection he had with such business was the purchase of bars of soap from chemists.

The Wallasey Magistrates on December 24 committed Wm. Gibney and Jos. Boyle, labourers, Birkenhead, for trial on a charge of breaking into the pharmacy of Mr. A. E. Tatler, chemist, 179 Victoria Road, Seacombe. The men, who pleaded guilty, were arrested while rifling a till, 19*s.* 4½*d.* in coppers, some soap and other articles being found on them. At the Chester Assizes on December 30 both defendants were sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour, Gibney for ten months and Boyle for twelve months.

At Northwich on December 28, James Marsh, chemical labourer, Winnington, was fined 25*l.*, or in default to undergo three months' imprisonment, on two charges—viz., endeavouring to obtain secret information from the works of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., by means of bribes, and with stealing a laboratory average sheet and other papers and documents belonging to the firm (*C. & D.*, December 28, 1912, index folio 941). Robert Yarwood, assistant timekeeper, was also fined 5*l.* for supplying the laboratory document referred to.

Pharmaceutical Society's Post-graduate Lectures.

The following is a synopsis of three lectures on Microbiology, and Pathological Chemistry and Microscopy, in Relation to the Pharmacist, to be delivered in the lecture-theatre, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., by Professor Hewlett on the dates mentioned:

LECTURE I., JANUARY 22.—Introductory: The Scope of Bacteriology; "Micro-biology"; The Relation of the "Art of Healing" to the Sciences; The Relations of Doctor and Pharmacist; Micro-biology in its Relation to Pharmacy—*e.g.*, the Preparation and Preservation of certain Solutions; Micro-biology in Relation to the Household.

LECTURE II., FEBRUARY 19.—Micro-biology, and Pathological Chemistry and Microscopy, in Relation to the Diagnosis of Disease—*e.g.*, Recognition of Micro-organisms, Cellular Elements, etc., in Secretions and Excretions, the Opsonic Index, Tumour and other Sections, Blood Examinations, Chemical Examinations, etc.; Micro-biology in Relation to the Treatment of Disease; Antiseptic and Aseptic Surgery; Remedies Involving the Co-operation of Micro-organisms.

LECTURE III., MARCH 19.—Micro-biology in Relation to the Prevention of Disease—*e.g.*, Disinfection, Prophylactic Vaccines; The Pharmaceutical Curriculum and Examinations; Suggestions for a Course of Instruction in Micro-biology, and Pathological Chemistry and Microscopy for the Pharmacist.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. W. Robinson, Ph.C., has opened a business in Ramelton, co. Donegal, under the title of The Medical Hall.

The establishment of Messrs. Connor, Newry, is now lighted with electricity, the firm having installed their own generating apparatus.

Surgeon-Major R. J. Blackham, Ph.C., was one of the first to offer help to Lord Hardinge, the Viceroy of India, at the time of the recent attempt on his life.

Messrs. Austin & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, the Diamond and Strand, Londonderry, are rebuilding and enlarging the premises of their branch business.

At the annual meeting of the Coleraine Unionist Club on December 27, Mr. R. F. McCartney, Ph.C., The Diamond, who presided, was elected a member of the committee.

The business of Mr. G. W. Lawson, registered druggist, Limavady, has been converted into a limited company, and Mr. George Hawthorne, Ph.C., formerly of Dublin, has been appointed to take charge of the dispensing department.

Sir Joseph Larmor, M.P., has intimated to the Corporation of Belfast his desire to erect in the City Hall a tablet to the memory of Dr. Joseph Black, the chemist, who was educated in Belfast. The Lord Mayor (Mr. R. J. McMordie, M.P.) proposes to erect a similar tablet to the memory of Professor Andrews in the world of chemistry.

Dr. J. C. McWalter, M.A., Ph.C., LL.B., is a candidate for membership of the Governing Body of University College, Dublin. In his address to the graduates he advocates the establishment of night lectures and hostels for students. Dr. McWalter also considers that larger Government grants should be made, so that the faculties can be better supported.

At the distribution of prizes to the students of the Dublin Technical Schools it was mentioned that there were twenty-two pharmaceutical students in the chemistry classes, eight in the pharmacy classes, fifteen studying materia medica and sixteen botany. Three pharmaceutical students, it was stated, had finished their course, and are now qualified as licentiates of the Pharmaceutical Society, one obtaining first place in chemistry at the Final examination.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. John Buchanan, chemist and druggist, High Street, Leven, Fife, has purchased the drug-business of Dr. Dawson, Buckhaven.

The pharmacy of the late Mr. John Livingstone, Stirling, has been purchased by Mr. John Templeton Simpson, chemist and druggist, formerly of Dalry, who had managed it since Mr. Livingstone's death.

Edinburgh.

Brother J. Gordon Nicholson, Ph.C., 15 Hanover Street, has been installed as one of the standard-bearers for the ensuing year in the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel).

The following Edinburgh chemists have not gone on the Insurance Dispensing Panel: Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., George Lunan, Paton & Finlay, and A. K. Stewart. The Professional and Civil Service Supply Association, Ltd., have also abstained.

In Edinburgh Sheriff Court on December 23 the Eldin Chemical Co., Ltd., Loanhead, were fined 3*l.* under each of four summonses for allowing noxious vapours to escape

from their works into the atmosphere. The Midlothian County Council also asked for a summary order depriving the company of the right to carry on their business, but Sheriff-Substitute Orr refused this.

Glasgow and the West.

Mr. H. W. Caesar, chemist and druggist, lately manager for Messrs. T. Esmor Hooson, Ltd., chemists, Llandudno, has taken over the business known as "Kinninmont's Pharmacy," South Portland Street, Glasgow.

Mr. Andrew Wood, Ph.C., manager to Messrs. Rankin & Borland, chemists, Kilmarnock, has been, as a Freemason, Master of Lodge St. John, No. 22, Kilmarnock, and has been much in request to officiate as R. W. Installing Master of office-bearers in different towns in Ayrshire. On Friday evening, December 27, he was presented by the present Master of Lodge St. John, No. 22, on behalf of the Lodge, with a magnificent Past Master's jewel.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

MR. CHARLES W. WHITE, of London, left Bombay by the English mail steamer on December 13.

A SOAP DISPUTE.—A case from the Colombo District Court came up in appeal on December 8 before the Chief Justice and Justice Wood Renton, in which a German firm carrying on business under the name of George Dralle sued M. M. Ebranjie for alleged infringement of their trade-mark in selling "Jockey Club" soap. The facts of the case were given in the *C. & D.* of September 21, index folio 465, when a verdict was given in favour of plaintiff. Judgment on the appeal was reserved.

PERMANGANATE TREATMENT FOR SNAKE-BITE.—Surgeon-General W. B. Bannerman, in a report to the Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, states that the treatment of snake-bite by means of potassium permanganate, as advocated by Sir T. Lauder Brunton, appears "to be of no use whatever." This statement is based upon the following facts. The local application of potassium permanganate in no case saved a dog bitten by a cobra. The animal may be saved by the immediate injection of 10 c.c. of 5 per cent. permanganate, but this solution is an escharotic, and loses its efficacy if the treatment is delayed for two minutes. A dog bitten by a Russell's viper cannot be saved by the chemical, however it is applied.

CURING THE OPIUM HABIT.—The "North China Daily News" of December 12 states that the Chinese Ministry of Home Affairs has framed three temporary degrees of punishment for offenders against the Opium Suppression Law, as follow:

(1) Persons under forty years of age shall be given three weeks in which to get rid of their opium habit; if they disobey, they shall be shot.

(2) From forty to sixty years, persons shall be allowed five weeks in which to break off their opium habit; the disobedient shall be punished by the third and fourth degrees of deportation.

(3) Persons above sixty years of age shall be allowed eight weeks to rid themselves of the opium habit; or shall be sentenced to a term of hard labour, and fined not more than \$300.

The clauses are the same as in Hunan, and will be enforced this month.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

THE FIRST WOMAN to pass the Jamaica Dispenser's examination is Miss Miriam Lovina Chance, daughter and pupil of Mr. R. E. Chance, druggist, Manchioneal, Jamaica. This was at the last examination in October.

PHARMACY IN SERBIA.—The Minister of the Interior has now issued a decree to the effect that all pharmacies must be closed in which no qualified assistant is on duty in the owner's absence at the war. Already a large number of

pharmacies have been closed, and through this new order a further number will have to suspend business.

ADVICE TO EXPORTERS.—H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa reports in the current issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" that he has recently received complaints from importers in South Africa regarding quotations made by some British exporters. It appears one or two cases have recently come to his notice in which importers in South Africa, having based their calculations on c.i.f. quotations made to them by British firms, have found out on receipt of the invoice that these quotations did not include packing charges. It should be remembered that c.i.f. means the cost placed on board *plus* freight and insurance, and the omission, whether in a cabled offer or in a catalogue, of any item which goes to make up that cost should be stated—e.g., "packing extra, so much," or, if necessary, "packing extra, estimated at so much." Attention is also called to the fact that duty in South Africa is levied on the "current value" of the goods for home consumption at the place of purchase, including packing.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

MOTOR ACCIDENT.—A pharmacy student named M. Paul Asoult was run over by a motor-car near the Gare St. Lazare, Paris, recently, and was taken to the Beaujon Hospital in a dying condition.

M. A. BARILLÉ, the 1913 Vice-President of the Paris Society of Pharmacy, is a graduate of the old school of pharmacy, Strasburg, which was removed to Nancy after the war. He took his degree of Doctor in Pharmacy at Paris in December 1900. He was for many years principal pharmacist at the St. Martin Military Hospital, Paris.

DEATH OF M. DETAILLE.—The death is announced of M. Edouard Detaille, the famous French artist, at the age of sixty-four. One of his most remarkable paintings was a scene from the funeral ceremony of Pasteur, which shows the procession leaving the Cathedral of Notre Dame at Paris. The setting is magnificent, and the details are given with all the sombre dignity befitting the occasion.

VANILLA FROM FRENCH COLONIES.—The French "Journal Officiel" for December 8 contains a presidential decree fixing at 20,000 kilos. the quantity of vanilla, the produce of French growers in Oceania, which may be imported into France on the payment of import duty at half the rate of the minimum tariff (*viz.*, at the rate of 208f. per 100 kilos.) during the period July 1, 1912, to June 30, 1913.

THE PERNICIOUS DRUG HABIT.—Owing to two new scandals in Paris last week, due to deaths from the pernicious use of morphine and cocaine, a stringent order has been issued by the Prefect of Police to the effect that energetic proceedings are to be taken against persons illicitly dealing in drugs of this class. Frequenters of the night cafés of Montmartre appear to be the principal victims of the habit, and the music-halls and cabarets in that district are to be put under supervision. Bogus prescriptions are one of the sources by which the drugs have been procured, and several pharmacists have had trouble in this connection. It has transpired that some of the students of one of the leading Paris colleges have fallen victims to the habit, owing apparently to the example of a friend of one of them, who wrote a book of poetry on the pleasures of taking morphine.

SHOP RENTS.—M. Thalarnas, the well-known French M.P., publishes an article in "La France" regarding the draft law which he laid before Parliament some months ago. The essential point of his proposition is that, when the lease of a shop expires and the shopkeeper does not come to terms with his landlord for the renewal, the landlord shall not accept a new tenant in the same line of business within a given period without compensating the ex-tenant. The same compensation would be due should the landlord start in business himself. After insisting on

the necessity of such a law to protect the small shop-keeper, already so harassed and handicapped in every way, M. Thalamas states that what has particularly interested him is the number of letters he has received from actual sufferers. A pharmacist who has bought a business (his predecessor being at the same time his landlord) writes: "He has the power of refusing to renew my lease and telling me he is going to keep the business for himself and his children. He can give me notice without paying for the goodwill he has sold me, and simply set up business in my place. What am I to do?" The subject becomes an equally onerous one when a pharmacist, or other tenant of a shop, has built up a prosperous business and, on the expiration of his lease, the landlord raises the rent in proportion to the success of the tenant.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

PERSONAL.—At the annual meeting of the Merchants Bank of Canada Mr. A. B. Evans, Vice-President of the National Drug and Chemical Co. of Canada, Ltd., and director of Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., was appointed a director of the bank.

MEDICAL PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.—Application is to be made to Parliament for an Act to incorporate the Canadian Medical Protective Association, which has for its objects the support and protection of the interests of its members and the encouragement of honourable practice.

GOLDEN WEDDING.—Mr. and Mrs. William Hawker, St. John, New Brunswick, celebrated recently their golden wedding. Mr. Hawker was born at Little Barrington, Gloucester, and went to St. John in 1862, and shortly afterwards started in business as a pharmacist in Prince William Street.

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.—Dr. Marston T. Bogert, President of the Society, was present at a meeting held in Montreal on December 16. He gave an address on the subject of co-operation between universities and chemical industries. Mr. Theo. H. Wardleworth proposed the vote of thanks which was afterwards passed to the President.

BUSINESS LECTURES.—At the semi-annual meeting of the Council of the Ontario College of Pharmacy the Council agreed with the recommendation that a course of lectures be given on commercial and business topics. Ten lectures are to be delivered next term by Mr. Thorne, an expert accountant. This is considered to be one of the most important steps in progress made by the College since 1900, when the matriculation standard was adopted.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.—At the last meeting of the Council of this Association notice of motion was given to amend By-law No. 4 so that no member who is not actively engaged in the practice of a chemist and druggist, as defined by the Pharmacy Act, shall be eligible for a seat on the Council. The nominations for the examining board which were sent to the Governor in Council for approval were as follows: Mr. John Cochrane, Victoria; Mr. F. C. Stearman, Nanaimo; and Mr. J. M. Fisher, Vancouver.

ARSENIC CONTAMINATION.—Under an Order-in-Council, issued in accordance with the provisions of the Adulteration of Foods, &c., Act, the following limits of arsenic (As_2O_3) in foods and food materials have been established: Arsenic (arsenious acid, As_2O_3) shall not be present in the undermentioned foods or food materials in excess of the following amounts expressed in parts per million: Citric acid (1), tartaric acid (1), cream of tartar (2), bicarbonate of soda (2), phosphoric acid (5), phosphate of lime (5), phosphate of soda (5), boric (boracic) acid (4), baking-powders (2). The above-named articles shall be declared to be adulterated when found to contain arsenic in excess of the amounts above mentioned. The standards above defined have effect from December 2.

THE IMPORTS OF CHEMICAL PRODUCTS into the Argentine during 1911 amounted in value to 2,435,654*l.*, against 2,457,981*l.* in 1910 and 2,040,678*l.* in 1909.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

The Commonwealth.

IMPORTATION OF SEQUARINE.—The "Board of Trade Journal" states that a copy of a proclamation dated October 25, 1912, has been received which prohibits under the Customs Act, 1901-10, the importation into the Commonwealth, in any form, of the preparation known as "Sequarine."

OPIMUM SALES.—An order was issued by the Collector of Customs on November 4 as follows:

Each order placed by a retailer with a licensed opium importer must be accompanied by a certificate to the effect that the opium is required for medicinal purposes only, and will only be disposed of on the written prescription or order of a medical practitioner. All such orders and certificates are to be filled by the licensed importers and produced when required for inspection by an authorised officer of this Department.

"SECRET REMEDIES."—The following is a reprint of the Australian "Hansard" report of November 21, 1912, in regard to the proposed reprinting of the British Medical Association's books:

Mr. W. J. Johnson: Is it the intention of the Government to publish as a Parliamentary paper the reports of the British Medical Association on quack medicines?

Mr. Tudor: We asked the British Medical Association if it was willing that we should publish its works as a Parliamentary paper, and received the reply that it was willing that we should do so if we acknowledged the source. I hope to be able to lay the papers on the table and have them printed as soon as possible for the information of honourable members. On November 7 the honourable member for Herbert asked the following question:

In view of their great importance, will the Minister of Trade and Customs take into consideration the advisableness of publishing, as a Parliamentary paper, so that they may be available to honourable members, the books known as "Secret Remedies" and "More Secret Remedies"?

To that I replied:

I shall lay copies on the table, and will consult with the British Medical Association, and, if I can get permission, I will move that they be printed.

The following cable was sent to the High Commissioner on November 11, 1912:

Government of Commonwealth of Australia desire reprint as Parliamentary paper British Medical Association's booklets on secret remedies. Ascertain whether Association approves.

A reply was received as follows on November 14, 1912:

With reference to your telegram, November 11, Medical Association grants permission to reprint, provided Government of Commonwealth of Australia acknowledge source of origin.

I desire now to lay the paper and the books on the table.

Ordered to be printed.

It appears that Mr. Tudor was also asked on November 6 a question of eight sections, turning on tuberculozine, Stevens' consumption-cure, Steedman's powders, and Steedman's powders, and mentioned the names of the medicinal preparations which have been prohibited by proclamation, and that objection had been taken to certain advertisements with regard to imported patent medicines—viz., Radam's microbe-killer, liquifruta, byrrh-wine, Nagels' Schnapps, Capstan condensed-milk, Anodyne necklaces, Dr. Kiesow's celebrated essence of life, Oxion electric porous plaster, Wioletta hair- tonic, and Dr. Campbell's capsuloids. He said it had been found necessary to compel the amendment of upwards of two thousand of the advertisements accompanying these different articles, but the trouble was that the newspapers published the same extravagant stuff after the medicines with the revised statements had secured admission to Australia.

New South Wales.

PHARMACY BOARD.—At the meeting held in Sydney on November 12 there were registered, among others, Geo. D. Rosser, chemist and druggist (G.B.), and H. G. Varker, Ph.C. (Ireland).

PRESENTATION.—After the business had been concluded at the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society on Novem-

ber 12, Mr. Wadsworth (President), on behalf of his colleagues, presented Mr. Carroll with a framed photo of the members of the Council. He said that Mr. Carroll has one of the largest chemist's business in Sydney, yet he is always fighting the battle of the small man. During the hearing of the Wages Board case, the Chairman remarked that Mr. Carroll had the interest of the small man at heart, and not the company chemist. Mr. Carroll, in thanking his colleagues, said he had been presented with a tribute he would always keep and honour. It would serve to remind him of the faces he had known for many years. He had joined the Society because he thought it was the duty of the members to help each other along.

THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS CONSOLIDATION BILL is an illustration of what may happen simply as the effect of consolidating laws. In 1900 a Bill passed through Parliament giving such persons who had not the prescribed qualifications the right to have their names inserted on a separate and distinct register, but not on the Medical Register. In his certificate the Commissioner of Consolidation says:

Under the repealed Acts it was somewhat curious that a person was entitled under Section 3 of No. 70, 1900, to be placed on a separate register, and he would then be subject to all the provisions of the Act, and would have all the rights of a registered medical practitioner, but the phrase in the other clauses of the Act was "legally qualified medical practitioner." Clause 8 has now by express inclusion been made a part of Clause 4, and so the person on the separate register has been made a "legally qualified medical practitioner."

In the discussion on the measure one member said, "It is not fair to the public that in passing a consolidating measure we should amend or repeal an Act of Parliament." But the amendment was made all the same.

New Zealand.

COMMISSION TO DOCTORS.—An unusual procedure was adopted for securing an amendment of the New Zealand Pharmacy Amendment Bill (*C. & D.*, December 21, 1912, index folio 932). To meet the case which had come under the notice of a member after the Bill had passed through Committee, when it was impossible to secure any further amendment, the Minister in charge undertook to obtain a message from the Governor proposing an amendment. This was introduced on October 23, and was agreed to by both Houses. It is to the effect that it is made punishable for a chemist to pay commission to any doctor, and in particular to supply to the doctor any prescription forms or envelopes or other wrappers having printed or written thereon his name and address. The Bill originally dealt only with prescription forms.

RECIPROCITY.—The Pharmacy Board on November 8 received a letter from the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales accepting explanations of points of difficulty and agreeing to the proposed terms for reciprocity. The President expressed satisfaction that progress had been made so far, and hoped that arrangements would soon be completed with the remaining States. He moved the adoption of a regulation the preparation of which had been arranged at a previous meeting. It provides for recognition under Section 27 (b) of the Pharmacy Act of the certificates of the various States; as regards Queensland, those issued upon an examination basis; in the case of New South Wales and Western Australia, all certificates of registration issued before March 31, 1912, all certificates issued subsequently to be upon an examination to be recognised. Agreements formally embodying the conditions were adopted.

OUR GERMAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

The Pharmaceutical Association of the Rhenish-Westphalian Industry District has issued a statement, according to which the business returns of the pharmacies in Germany's principal industrial district show a considerable falling off during the current year. This is principally due to the fact that the bases of the official medicine tariff have not been altered for many years, although the enormously

increased cost of living now entails an average extra expenditure of 15 per cent. On the other hand, four-fifths of the population is insured, and the cheap prescribing enforced on the doctors in the case of club patients naturally keeps the profits at a very low figure.

Advertising of patent medicines still awaits a uniform solution for the whole of Germany. With the exception of those preparations enumerated in the Imperial law (see *C. & D.*, November 23, index folio 784) the public advertisement of which is forbidden, there is no uniform legislation on the subject, but every German State, and indeed each separate Prussian province, possesses its own regulations and by-laws. Thus it may happen that the advertisement of a medicinal preparation may be perfectly legal in one State or province, but printed in the same form in another part of the empire it is illegal. In some provinces it is necessary to include in the advertisement itself the formula; in others this is not required, and this example alone illustrates the complexity of the legal situation. The district of Wiesbaden has now been favoured with a new and brief by-law on the subject, according to which no articles, substances, or preparations may be advertised as remedies for man or beast if their sale is subject to any restrictions (this includes all drugs the sale of which is limited to pharmacies), or if the ingredients are not mentioned, or if they are not generally known. A fine of 3*l.* is the penalty for transgressors. According to this regulation it would be a punishable offence to advertise in a newspaper of the district of Wiesbaden zinc ointment for human use, for the sale of this preparation is restricted to pharmacies; on the other hand, zinc ointment for the use of animals might be freely advertised, as it may be sold outside a pharmacy.

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

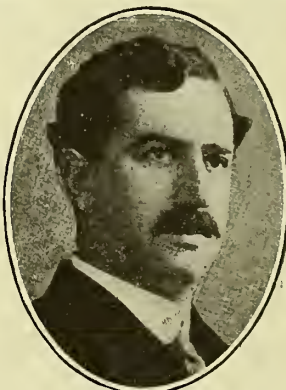
(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Assistants' Journal.—The National Association of Drug Clerks, which has its headquarters in Chicago, has published No. 1 of "The National Drug Clerk," which is to be the official organ of the Association, "run for the clerk by the clerk." It contains a report of the annual convention which was held in September.

Fungi.—The United States Department of Agriculture has issued the following amendment to the Rules and Regulations for carrying out the provisions of the Insecticide Act of 1910:

"The term 'fungi,' as used in the Act and these regulations, is understood to mean all nonchlorophyll-bearing plants of a lower order than mosses and liverworts (*i.e.*, nonchlorophyll-bearing thallophytes), comprising rusts, smuts, mildews, molds, yeast, bacteria, etc."

Dr. Carl L. Alsberg, a chemist in the Bureau of Chemistry, has been appointed by Secretary Wilson, acting under the instructions of President Taft, to succeed Dr. Wiley as chief of the Bureau. The appointment has caused surprise in certain quarters, particularly as Dr. R. E. Doolittle's name has been freely mentioned as the possible successor. Dr. Alsberg is thirty-five years of age, was born in Washington, and is a scientist of high reputation. He graduated in arts from Columbia University in 1896, received his M.A. in 1900 and his M.D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the same year. He has particularly devoted himself to the chemistry of drugs in the United States and abroad, having spent several years at the German universities and in research work in American laboratories. He has been a chemist in the Bureau since 1908, and is regarded as well qualified to undertake the work of his new position.



DR. ALSBERG.

BOHEMIAN SPIRIT.—The latest statistics published show that in 1909-10 there were 425 distilleries working in Bohemia, which produced 7,175,706 gals. of raw spirit, a reduction on the previous year of 1,222,848 gals.; the trade was chiefly with Germany.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Sunday Not a Week-day.—At Greenwich Police Court on December 31, a Forest Hill hairdresser was summoned by the London County Council, under the Shops Act, for not closing his shop on one afternoon in a week. Monday was the day for closing notified in defendant's shop, but it was not closed then or on any other week-day. Defendant said he closed his shop on Sunday, and referred the Magistrate to Section 19 as a justification for regarding Sunday as a week-day. Thereupon the Magistrate read Section 4 (1), which requires shops to be closed on "one week-day," and the defendant handed his Worship Section 19, which defines "week" as the period between midnight on Saturday night and midnight on the succeeding Saturday. The defendant declared that this made it clear that Sunday was a week-day, but the Magistrate did not take that view, and imposed a fine of 20s. and 2s. costs.

Fitting a Pharmacy.—At the Whitechurch County Court last week, Mr. S. C. Rowland, chemist, High Street, Whitechurch, sued Messrs. A. F. Corbett & Co., shopfitters, Birmingham, for 17. 12s. as the price of three window shelves, which had been paid for but not delivered. Plaintiff's case was that he ordered fifteen shelves from defendants for 97., to be delivered on October 24 at his new shop. He paid for them in advance, but the shelves were not delivered until November 7, when, he alleged, there were three short. The defendants denied this, saying that 97. was for twelve shelves and eight mirrors (which plaintiff had forgotten about), and that the extra three shelves were only suggested afterwards, to be supplied at a cost of 17. Defendants stated that although that suggestion had been made, the order had never been confirmed, and the twelve shelves and eight mirrors had been forwarded for the 97. received. They had suggested that three shelves should go in the small window to match those in the larger one, but they were not included in the 97. They counterclaimed for damage alleged to have been sustained by plaintiff cancelling the order for a counter-case. Judge R. Brown decided in favour of defendants, giving 20s. damages on the counter-claim, and dismissed the claim, with costs to defendants.

Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.

OFFENCE UNDER SECTION 5.

At the Tower Bridge Police Court, London, on December 31, Roland Donne Millward, chemist and druggist, Offley Road, Brixton, was summoned by Subdivisional Inspector May for selling hydrochloric acid without bottling it and labelling it according to the provisions of the Act and the regulations. He pleaded guilty. Mr. Knight, who appeared for the Commissioner of Police, explained that the offence was selling a pennyworth of spirit of salt in a teacup. The facts were reported in the *C. & D. Coloured Supplement* of December 14. A fine of 27., and 17. 6s. costs, was imposed.

BANKRUPTCY REPORT.

Re John Bedford Whitehead, residing at 18 Quarry Place, Woodhouse, Leeds, and carrying on business at 120 Woodhouse Street, Leeds, described as Chemist and Druggist.—The public examination of the debtor was held at the Leeds Bankruptcy Court on December 31, before Mr. Registrar Gillespie, the examination being conducted by the Official Receiver (Mr. John Bowling). (See *C. & D.*, December 21, 1912, index folio 909.) The debtor stated that he served his apprenticeship to a chemist and druggist, but did not qualify, and held situations as assistant up to April 1908. In July of that year, after being out of employment, he purchased the business in Woodhouse Street for 457., borrowing 347. from a brother, which is still owing. His takings at first averaged from 67. to 97. per week, of which about a third would be profit, and it left him sufficient for living, but he stated that the third year after commencing his takings fell to 57. or 67., when he got behind with his payments and became insolvent. He continued business, hoping to work up the trade. The account of his principal creditor increased until it reached over 707., when he was required to pay cash against further goods supplied, and, not being able then to keep sufficient stock, his takings fell off to 47. a week, and he was unable to continue,

and filed his petition, selling part of his furniture for 107., which was paid on account of fees. In January last, he stated, on proceedings being commenced by the Pharmaceutical Society against him for selling poisons, being an unqualified person, he paid a penalty of 57., and 5s. costs. He admitted, in examination, having been twice fined (107. and 57.) for selling scheduled poisons. The examination was closed.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

T. ROBERTS (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,0007., in 17. shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of T. Roberts, 1 Belgrave Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. The first directors are T. Roberts and F. B. Finimore. R.O., as above.

T. O. DAVIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 5007., in 17. shares. Objects: To take over the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by T. O. Davies at Medical Hall, Cefn, near Ruabon, Denbigh. The first directors are T. O. Davies and W. H. Thomas.

HENRY'S (CLAREMONT), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1007., in 17. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists and druggists, etc. The subscribers and first directors are H. Eagle, H. V. Lucas, and A. V. Robinson. R.O., 1 Heath Court, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

J. S. BUTTERWORTH, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 3007., in 17. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, dyers, oil and colour men, etc. The subscribers are J. S. Butterworth, druggist, 144 Manchester Street, Oldham; Mrs. E. Sutcliffe; and H. Jacques, chemist, Royton.

PINOXIC SYNDICATE (1912), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 6,0007., in 17. shares. Objects: To take over the business carried on at Pinoxic House, Woking, of manufacturing "Pinoxic" for bath and other toilet purposes, and to adopt an agreement with A. H. Myers. The first directors are H. R. Hart, A. H. Myers, and G. B. Moore.

STORK CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,0007., in 17. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in waterproof goods, maternity outfits, abdominal bands, drugs, etc. The first directors are M. S. Thompson, C. P. Seaverns, and J. H. B. Dawson, the last-named being of 15-17 Fore Street Avenue, London, E.C.

COSBY REFILLABLE HAIR-BRUSH, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 3,0007. Objects: To acquire the business carried on as Eric L. H. Cosby & Co., and the benefit of certain existing inventions relating to the manufacture of refillable hair-brushes, and to adopt an agreement with E. L. H. Cosby and J. W. Conder, who are the first directors along with A. J. Cattle.

F. ANDERSON & Co., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,0007., in 17. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of importers and manufacturers of medicated and other wines and compounds, pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, and other preparations, etc. The first directors are H. Newington and A. V. Farley. R.O., Cromwell House, Surrey Street, Strand, London, W.C.

JAMES BEARD, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,0007., in 17. shares. Objects: To take over the business of a chemist, druggist, dyer, oil and colour dealer carried on by E. Beard at 16 Great Ancoats Street, Manchester, as "James Beard," and to adopt an agreement with E. Beard and Jessie E. Beard. The first subscribers and directors are E. Beard (permanent governing director) and Mrs. J. E. Beard. R.O., 16 Great Ancoats Street, Manchester.

WILLIAM RANSOM & SON, LTD. (P.C.).—Registered on December 23 with a capital of 30,0007., in 17. shares (12,500 preference). Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturing chemists as formerly carried on by W. Ransom and F. Ransom at Hitchin, Herts, as "William Ransom & Son." The subscribers are: W. Ransom, J.P., Fairfield, Hitchin; F. Ransom, The Chilterns, Hitchin; A. Latchmore, Wincombe, Chiltern Road, Hitchin, pharmaceutical chemist; Mrs. P. M. Ransom, The Chilterns, Hitchin; W. O. Times, Hitchin, solicitor; R. C. Swaine, 53 Coleman Street, E.C., solicitor; and A. B. Lucas, 19 Coleman Street, E.C., C.A. The number of directors is not to be less than two nor more than five; the first are F. Ransom (chairman), A. Latchmore, and J. B. Smith. F. Ransom has the right to nominate a director. Remuneration of F. Ransom, 2507. per annum; and of A. Latchmore and J. B. Smith, 1007. each per annum. R.O., Bancroft, Hitchin.

National Health Insurance.

Dispensing and Drug Arrangements.

Insurance Committees throughout Great Britain concluded on December 31, 1912, the formation of the first panels of doctors and dispensing chemists, as well as other suppliers of drugs and appliances, under the National Insurance Act. We append reports of matters more directly concerned with the chemists' part of the business.

Bath.—A meeting of pharmacists going on the Insurance panel was held on December 30 at the Literary Institute, Bath, with Mr. Luther Wilson in the chair. Mr. Willmott (Radstock) and Mr. Hemingway (Royal United Hospital) were elected members of the Bath Pharmaceutical Association. The Hon. Secretary then gave a *résumé* of the negotiations between the Committee of the Association and the Bath Insurance Committee, from which it appeared that out of thirty-one persons, firms, or bodies corporate in the city entitled to go on the panel, twenty-six have intimated their intention of doing so, and had so notified the Hon. Secretary on the postcard sent out with the tariff provided by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance. The Association Committee had met, and resolved to submit to the Insurance Committee the desirability of fixing definite hours, 8 A.M. to 8 P.M., for dispensing at the tariff rates, the dispensing-fees to be double after 8 P.M., and between 11 P.M. and 7 A.M. a night fee of 1s. to be charged. On Sundays, Bank and other holidays the double dispensing-fee to be operative. This was discussed on December 23, when a deputation, consisting of Messrs. Wilson, Olds, Hallett, and Haves, met the Medical Benefit Sub-committee, and the proposals were favourably received by them; but the deputation was informed that the local Committee could not agree to them without the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, and also of the local Medical Committee. A letter from the Bath Insurance Committee had since been received intimating that no reply had arrived from the Commissioners, and that the local Medical Committee had asked for time for consideration and consultation on the matter. Under these circumstances, the pharmacists were asked to sign the provisional agreements without the inclusion of any increased fees, and were promised an opportunity for full discussion of the matter between themselves, the sub-committee, and the doctors. This was the matter for decision that evening, as the next day was the last for forming panels. A discussion then took place, and eventually it was decided that the agreements be signed provisionally for three months, with the understanding that the extra fees be strongly urged upon the Insurance Committee and be made retrospective. It was also further agreed that all present should insist upon proper bottles being found or paid for on deposit, and should not undertake to deliver medicines for insured persons.

Blackpool.—A special meeting of the Blackpool and Fylde Pharmacists' Association was held on December 27, Mr. D. J. Bailey presiding, to hear and consider the report of the sub-committee on the tariff and regulations. The report of the conference between the Medical Sub-committee of the local Insurance Committee and the deputation representing the Association was also given. The reports were approved and the deputation thanked. The Chairman is a member of the Medical Sub-committee, and he spoke of the splendid manner in which Mr. Boothroyd had acted as leader of the deputation. The points gained were as follows:

Hours of Dispensing.—On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, morning 8.30 to 1 P.M., afternoon 2.30 to 4.30, evening 6 to 8; Wednesday (when early-closing day), morning 8.30 to 12.30, evening 6.30 to 8; Sunday, morning 12.30 to 1, evening 6 to 7.

A special fee of 1s. over and above the dispensing-charge according to tariff to be paid in respect of each insured person requiring urgent medicine between 8 P.M. and 8.30 A.M., or on Sundays other than at the times stated for dispensing.

Prescriptions handed in after 8 P.M. to be dispensed that night only if marked "Urgent" by the practitioner.

The clause relating to the refunding of the deposit when medicine-bottles are returned was deleted, the Insurance Committee agreeing to pay for all medicine-bottles supplied to insured persons at the rate of 1d. each, irrespective of size.

It was moved that the Association recommend all its members to go on the panel. This was carried with one dissentient. The Pharmaceutical Committee, as ordered to be set up in the regulations, was appointed as follows: Messrs. Boothroyd, Chew (Taylors' Drug Co., Ltd.), Huddart, Johnson, Lowe, Laurie, and Roberts (Boots, Ltd.). It was the unanimous wish of the members present that invitations to the annual dinner on January 29 be sent to the qualified

representatives of the stores in the area covered by the Association.

Bradford.—The pharmacists of the city—with five exceptions—applied for admission to the dispensing panels, and on Tuesday night met to the number of about sixty to formulate their case for presentation to the Committee when the representatives of the doctors have been added, the local Insurance Committee having satisfactorily arranged the medical panel by advertising for doctors at 500% and 700% a year, receiving as a result applications from three times more than are required.

Bury.—A deputation, consisting of Messrs. Dean, Charnley, Croasdale, Heywood, and Williamson (Boots, Ltd.), waited on the Bury Insurance Committee in regard to the tariff, which was accepted. Arrangements for hours of dispensing are to be made with the medical men.

Caithness chemists met the local Insurance Committee in Wick on December 28, when the drug price-list was discussed, very strong objection being taken by chemists to the low prices. They ultimately agreed to go on the panel, but refused the prices offered, and accepted the capitation grant instead. In addition, a claim was made for a night fee of 1s. for every prescription dispensed between the hours of 8 P.M. and 8 A.M. A request was also pressed for a grant of 6d. to cover cost of packing and postage of medicines to the country, on account of the long distance insured persons would have to go for their medicines, many residing thirty and forty miles from chemist and doctor. A very strong objection was also raised to doctors being allowed to dispense outside the one-mile limit. The case was presented for the chemists by Mr. Cumming (Thurso), and was well received by the Committee, who promised to ask the Commissioners for favourable consideration of the different points raised.

Cambridge.—A special meeting of pharmacists entitled to serve on the dispensing panel under the National Insurance Act was held at Croydon Chambers, Regent Street, on December 27, for the purpose of discussing the model tariff and appointing representatives to meet the local Insurance Committee. The President of the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association (Mr. J. Evans), who was in the chair, explained that the members had been called together in response to a notice of a meeting of the local Insurance Committee the next morning, to which delegates from the Association had been invited to attend. In response to an invitation to put questions, Mr. Coulthard asked, in reference to Regulation 43 (2), "Does the Committee intend to pay for the work done, or is labour and material to be sacrificed?" Mr. E. S. Peck, replying to this question, stated he had regarded this in the same way as a bad debt. Mr. A. S. Campkin offered himself as a member of a deputation to meet the Insurance Committee. The whole of those present having decided to go on the panel, the following were appointed a committee to wait upon the Insurance Committee: Alderman A. S. Campkin, Messrs. J. Evans, D. Sturton, and S. F. Barker. A discussion on various points followed, and it was generally agreed:

1. That the Insurance Committee be asked to regard the tariff as confidential.

2. The tariff to be temporary.

3. A minimum charge of 4d. for a prescription when a dispensing-fee is allowed, and a minimum charge of 3d. when no dispensing-fee is allowed.

4. An extra fee of 3d. be chargeable after 8 P.M. weekdays, 1 P.M. Thursdays, also Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Coventry.—Twenty chemists have gone on the panel.

Cumberland.—On December 27 the Cumberland Chemists' Central Representative Committee, consisting of Mr. Bennett, Whitehaven; Mr. Cowper, Penrith; Mr. Ridley, Carlisle; and Mr. Townley, Keswick, met at Carlisle the sub-committee of the Cumberland Insurance Committee, who has been given power to make arrangements with chemists for the supply of drugs, medicines, and appliances to insured persons. The deputation made out a strong case that there should be, in addition to the tariff charges, an extra fee of 6d. for every call on Sundays, Bank Holidays, and at night. This was favourably received by the Committee; but, after consideration *in camera*, they decided that they could not grant it, as the amount of money at their disposal is inadequate. After further deliberation the Chairman proposed that the chemists accept the printed drug-tariff as it stands, from January 15 to April 13, as a trial—when the tariff charges could be revised. The times arranged for Sundays and Bank Holidays are from 10 to 11 A.M. and from 6 to 7 P.M. The deputation accepted this on behalf of the sixty chemists on the panel. The Clerk stated that it would be sufficient if the members of the deputation signed the agreement, instead of each individual chemist on the panel.

Denbigh County.—The Medical Benefit Sub-Committee met at Wrexham on Monday, December 30, when Dr. Lloyd

(Denbigh), Dr. Byford (Ruthin), Dr. Rowland (Wrexham), and Messrs. J. B. Francis (Wrexham), J. W. Adamson (Colwyn Bay), and L. B. Rowland (Wrexham), pharmacists, were present. With some slight variations, the drug-tariff was adopted and subsequently passed by the County Insurance Committee. Chemists are to arrange with their doctors locally for the fixing of dispensing hours.

Devon.—A deputation of the chemists of the county met the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee at Exeter on December 31, Mr. P. F. Rowsell presiding. A deputation of the chemists of the county, consisting of Messrs. D. Reid (Exeter), H. Wippell Gadd (Exeter), J. J. O. Evans (Teignmouth), C. Gregory (Dawlish), W. Shephard (Barnstaple), A. Shand (Budleigh Salterton), J. Nicholson (Exmouth), F. Sarson (Paignton), T. W. Dunsford (Torquay), N. V. Stow (Newton Abbott), and H. D. Doble (Tavistock), was received. Mr. Reid stated that it represented 147 pharmacists willing to go on the panel on condition that the dispensing-fee might be doubled for service between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. and on Sundays and statutory holidays; also that for the same times a single dispensing-fee should be allowed for the supply of drugs which are not ordinarily entitled to a dispensing-fee. They further asked that if any complaints were made or any difficulties arose between medical men, insured persons, and pharmacists, the Devon Committee would allow the pharmacists to be represented by local committees and officers of their own. The sub-committee agreed to the terms. Subsequently the deputation met some Exeter pharmacists at tea. It was decided to recommend Devonshire pharmacists to join the Exeter, Torquay, or Three Towns Association, according to the districts in which they are. Mr. Shephard (Barnstaple) agreed to try to form an Association for North Devon, with headquarters at Barnstaple. It was also suggested that all these Associations should meet not less than once a year at Exeter for concerted action on any professional matter.

Dorset.—The deputation appointed by the Dorset County Pharmacists' Association met the Dorset County Insurance Committee on December 27 to discuss the arrangements for dispensing. In the discussion, which occupied over two hours, many points were raised, and finally an agreement was arrived at as follows:

The tariff to be adopted with the addition of a clause at the foot of the dispensing charges on page 15, which now reads: "All dispensing charges incurred between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m., and on Sundays, to be at double the above rates." All poison-bottles necessary will be charged to the Insurance Fund; all ordinary medicine-bottles are to be provided by the insured persons.

Two amended copies of the printed tariff were signed—one by the deputation, on behalf of the Association, and one by the Chairman of the County Insurance Committee and by the Clerk. Other points raised with the Committee were the "Bankruptcy" Clause, Reg. 43 (2), which the deputation contended is an unjust, unreasonable, and unbusinesslike provision. In regard to dispensing in country districts where the patient is more than a mile from the nearest chemist on the panel, the deputation argued that if both doctor and chemist are in the town and the patient is the only one beyond the mile, and had, therefore, to come into the town for medicine, then the chemist should do the dispensing and not the doctor. It was also asked that a statement should be made in the directions to the insured that delivery is not included in the dispensing service. The question was also raised of better representation of chemists on Insurance Committees, and the Chairman promised that he would raise the question with the Commissioners at an early opportunity.

Eastbourne.—The Insurance Committee have accepted the tariff.

Exeter.—The Insurance Committee have approved of a panel of chemists for the city.

Falkirk.—It is intimated that the chemists in this borough have gone on the dispensing panel, and the Borough Insurance Committee met deputations from them and doctors on December 27. The chemists suggested that all prescriptions dispensed between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. should have a special fee, but this was held over.

Fife County.—Another meeting of the chemists of Cowdenbeath, Lochgelly, Kelty, Glencraig, and Bowhill was held at Lochgelly on December 26 at 9 p.m., when the agreements were signed and the Secretary was instructed to protest against the tariff conditions for the return of old bottles, as well as against the low prices for powders and ointments, and that containers for these could not be supplied free. Further, to suggest that 10 per cent. only, and not 25 per cent., off the quarterly accounts should be retained, and that extra remuneration for night work should be allowed to chemists, seeing that the principle has been recognised by the Commissioners in the case of doctors.—

At a meeting of the Provisional Insurance Committee held at Kirkcaldy on December 21, a letter from the chemists in the district protesting against the low prices for drugs was submitted, along with a statement that it is impossible to supply the finest drugs at the prices. Professor Herkless (St. Andrews), who presided, thought that was a serious statement, and suggested that the protest should be sent to the Commissioners without comment. This was agreed to, also the suggestion of Lady Helen Munro Ferguson that the Committee approve temporarily of the prices until the next meeting.

Glamorgan.—The members of the North Glamorgan Chemists' Association, besides agreeing to go on the panel at the tariff rate, have agreed to supply medicines and appliances to the wives and families of insured persons at the same rates. Councillor H. M. Lloyd (President) has also submitted a scheme for increasing the State benefits by adopting a poundage system at the various collieries and works in the district. He suggests that the workmen should inaugurate a fund to which each man should contribute 2s. in the pound of his earnings. Of this fund the medical practitioner would receive a penny, the chemist a halfpenny, and the remaining halfpenny would be devoted to sick benefit. By this means a single man could get sick relief to the extent of 4s. a week beyond that provided under the Act.

Hull.—The Insurance Committee has been waited upon twice by a deputation from the Hull Pharmacists' Association, the second occasion being on December 28, when the deputation consisted of Messrs. Smith (President), Staning (Secretary), Stoakes, Earle, Robinson (Treasurer), and Richardson (Messrs. Boots). After discussion the Committee agreed to accept the drug-tariff submitted by the deputation. With the exception of half-a-dozen, all the qualified chemists in the city have agreed to join the panel.

Lancashire.—A deputation from the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association had a conference with the sub-committee of the Insurance Committee on Monday, December 30, regarding the tariff. The deputation consisted of Messrs. W. H. Grimshaw (President), J. W. Aspinall, J. W. Openshaw, A. Lucas, and R. H. McMyn, while Mr. R. Lord Gifford, J.P., is a member of the Insurance Sub-Committee which accepted the tariff for recommendation to the Insurance Committee.

London County.—Mr. G. A. Tocher (Hon. Secretary of the County of London Association of Pharmacists) writes to thank all those who have written to him regarding the dispensing panel and tariff, and to say that matters raised by the correspondents will receive attention at the next Executive meeting of the Association. He adds that the response so far as London is concerned has been most gratifying.

Manchester.—A deputation consisting of Messrs. Bates, Bell, Blain, Coates, Kidd, and Mallinson, representing the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, was received by the Medical Sub-committee of the Manchester Insurance Committee at the Union Bank Buildings, Piccadilly, Manchester, on December 23, when the tariff of fees and prices was submitted. The deputation gave the sub-committee a guarantee that all the members of the Association were prepared to work the Act. The question of dispensing during late hours was put forward, but as no doctors had responded to the invitation of the Insurance Committee to attend the meeting, no decision could be arrived at. There is to be a meeting of all Manchester chemists soon for the purpose of conferring together on several important matters. The areas round Manchester, comprising Stretford, Eccles, Urmston, Barton, and Patricroft, are in Area 22 (Lancashire), and any chemists who live in these districts requiring information should communicate with Mr. Scholes, chemist, Church Street, Eccles.

Middlesex.—Mr. A. E. Bailey (Secretary to the County of Middlesex Pharmacists' Association) issued a second circular to chemists in the county who had not returned to him the requisite forms on December 20. These were sent to 500 individuals, and by December 28 the number had been reduced to 350. On the afternoon of that day the Middlesex Insurance Committee sent Mr. Bailey 350 forms for signature by chemists and companies. The Middlesex Insurance Committee had previously submitted the tariff to the doctors who had agreed to go on the panel, and it was approved by them and accepted as it stands. We quote from the form of acceptance a paragraph added by the Middlesex Committee in illustration of what no doubt has been done elsewhere:

In accordance with the Tariff for Drugs, Appliances, and Dispensing Charges furnished by the Secretary of the Middlesex Pharmacists' Association on December 19, 1912, a copy whereof has been signed by Arthur Edwin Bailey on behalf of the Chemist, and by Edmund Rushworth Abbott, the Clerk of the Committee, on their behalf.

Each of the forms sent out was accompanied by the following request: "Please sign over the requisite stamp and post at once to the Clerk to the Middlesex Insurance Committee, 13 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W."

Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—A conference between the representatives of the Newcastle Chemists' Association and the Insurance Committee has resulted in a panel being formed for supplies on the basis of the drug-tariff, with double fees for supplies after business hours.

Oban chemists have agreed to accept service for three months at the tariff rates, and have notified to the Insurance Committee their disapproval of chemists outside the county being placed on the panel as dispensers for insured persons in Argyllshire; also the unfairness of postages of medicines mailed to persons in the country not being chargeable to the Insurance Committee. Argyllshire doctors decided last week to refuse service under the Act.

Paisley.—A private conference of the Insurance Subcommittee and the local chemists and doctors was held on December 27. Service until April 14 was accepted by all, and a recommendation was made to chemists that on Tuesday afternoon, when the half-holiday is observed, arrangements should be made whereby one pharmacy is kept open for the supply of drugs in cases of emergency.

Scotland.—We are indebted to Mr. J. Rutherford Hill (Edinburgh) for the following statement of how the first dispensing panels in Scotland stand:

	Popula- tion	No. of Chemists on Panel
Aberdeen County	159,693	100
Burgh	165,084	65
Argyll County	70,901	32
Ayr County	200,618	53
Burgh of Ayr	32,985	17
Burgh of Kilmarnock	34,729	7
Banff County	61,402	35
Berwick County	29,643	16
Bute County	18,186	6
Caithness County	32,008	8
Clackmannan and Kinross Counties	38,649	18
Dumbarton County	80,295	31
Burgh of Dumbarton	21,989	9
Burgh of Clydebank	37,547	8
Dumfries County	56,762	25
Burghs of Dumfries and Maxwelltown	22,262	9
Edinburgh County	106,858	144
Burgh of Edinburgh	320,315	133
Burgh of Leith	80,489	63
Elgin and Nairn Counties	52,746	31
Fife County	200,031	95
Burgh of Dunfermline	28,103	15
Burgh of Kirkcaldy	39,600	17
Forfar County	95,765	79
Burgh of Arbroath	20,648	8
Burgh of Dundee	165,006	50
Haddington County	43,253	16
Inverness County	65,054	26
Burgh	22,216	12
Kincardine County	29,580	40
Kirkcudbright County	32,163	21
Linark County	309,751	120
*Burgh of Glasgow	784,455	175
Burgh of Rutherglen	24,411	17
Burgh of Airdrie	24,388	7
Burgh of Coatbridge	43,287	8
Burgh of Hamilton	38,644	11
Burgh of Motherwell	40,378	13
Burgh of Wishaw	25,263	7
Linlithgow County	79,456	15
Orkney County	25,896	3
Peebles County	15,258	16
Perth County	88,488	55
Burgh	35,851	12
Renfrew County	154,920	93
Burgh of Paisley	84,477	14
Burgh of Greenock	75,140	22
Ross and Cromarty County	77,353	25
Roxburgh County	47,192	22
Selkirk County	24,600	14
Stirling County	106,234	46
Burgh of Stirling	21,200	10
Burgh of Falkirk	33,569	15
Sutherland County	20,180	15
Wigtown County	31,990	7
Zetland County	27,911	4

* Since the passing of the Insurance Act the Burghs of Govan (pop. 89,725) and Partick (pop. 66,848) have been amalgamated with the Burgh of Glasgow.

In every instance, through the courtesy of the Clerk to the respective Insurance Committees, the foregoing figures have been verified by reference to the actual returns in the hands of the Clerk. The general scheme in Scotland is essentially on the same lines as in England and Wales, with minor modifications to suit special circumstances in Scotland. The one-mile limit provision is condemned in Scotland, and is being protested against in a considered statement show-

ing its unreasonableness and unjustness. The question of payment for services out of hours is being carefully considered, and it is proposed to collect evidence of the actual working of the service during the provisional three months, with a view to submitting a representation to the Commissioners. In many counties also the question of payment of postage or carriage of medicines is very important, and the provision of some means of meeting this cost in certain localities is under consideration. Meantime, apparently it can only be met by the insured person himself paying the postage. Many other points are having close attention by the Standing Committee.

Sheffield.—The Insurance Committee of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society will meet the Medical Sub-committee of the local Insurance Committee on Tuesday, January 7.

West Bromwich.—All the pharmacists and limited company shops under qualified control have gone on the dispensing panel. The Medical Benefits Sub-committee saw chemists on Monday, and agreement was arrived at, but no arrangements were made as to night work, holiday service, early closing, etc.

York.—The Insurance Committee of York received on December 27 a deputation from the York Chemists' Association, who asked for higher terms than those in the tariff prepared by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee. They also asked for an allowance for bottles, but this the Committee declined in view of the meeting of medical men held on December 30. The chemists agreed to go on the dispensing panel.

Thursday's Conferences.

On Thursday, January 2, the Advisory Committee on Insurance met in London, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer addressed them for a space of two hours, chiefly in regard to the Medical Benefit arrangements and the present position. The Pharmaceutical representatives were present—viz., Messrs. Rowsell and Woolcock for England, Mr. Arnott for Wales, and Mr. J. P. Gilmour for Scotland. The Chancellor had a good deal to say in regard to the dispensing of medicines, confirmatory of the principle which he laid down when he introduced the measure into the House of Commons—viz., that the dispensing should, as far as practicable, be separated from prescribing. His remarks leave the pharmacy position unchanged, and he fully discussed the claims more recently put forward on behalf of doctors that they should retain dispensing. As to that, the Chancellor was emphatic in pointing out that no serious claim to this effect had been made by a thoroughly representative body; further, that it was opposed by the bulk of the best men in the medical profession. His declarations on this matter were quite satisfactory to chemists. Speaking of the medical panels, the Chancellor said the returns show that one-fourth of the area is still uncovered, but up to the first post on that day the Commissioners had received notification of 8,000 doctors having accepted service, and before the day was out he expected that the number would be 10,000. He impressed upon the meeting that these agreements must not be confounded with anything in the nature of State medical service; they were entirely for general medical practice such as at present exists privately between doctor and patient.

One of the most striking passages in the speech referred to the fact that the Commissioners are prepared for working the medical benefit where panels are full, where panels are incomplete, and also where there are no panels. The methods outlined were that permission may be given to those doctors on the panel to employ enough assistants to secure a sufficiency of medical men, the importation of medical men with guaranteed minimum incomes, and the employment of whole-time medical officers, with certain limitations on their practice. He remarked:

"It has been assumed by a number of medical men that the insured person has an absolute right to make arrangements, apart from the Insurance Committees or the Insurance Commissioners, with any doctor he likes, whether on or off the panel. That right depends entirely upon the Insurance Committees, and any outside arrangement can only be allowed by the consent of the Insurance Committee. If doctors on the panel undertake to engage a sufficient number of assistants or take a sufficient number of partners so that the incomplete panel may become a complete one, we shall

then close the panel in that area for a limited period, so that no other doctor can come in. We are now in the position to do this. We shall insist upon completely qualified men."

A conference with Chairmen and Clerks of Insurance Committees was held in the afternoon. The meetings were held at the premises of the Civil Service Commission in Burlington Gardens. Mr. Lloyd George was accompanied by the Attorney-General, Mr. Masterman, and Sir Robert Morant.

NOTICE CARD.

According to the revised regulations, persons undertaking the supply of drugs or appliances, or both, are required to exhibit the following notice in their places of business:

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

(Name of person or firm contracting.)

Under contract with the Insurance Committee for the County [or County Borough] of

To dispense medicines.

To supply drugs.

*To supply drugs (except scheduled poisons).

To supply appliances.

We have had this notice printed on cards ready to hang up in the shop, and they can be obtained on application to the Publisher of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., at 4d. per copy or 3s. 6d. per dozen post free. The cards also bear our medicine-liability chart on the back. The line marked * is not, of course, necessary for those on the dispensing panel, but it occurs in the schedule, and can be covered with a piece of white paper. The Insurance Commissioners inform us that the card is quite in order, also that local Insurance Committees will supply each person on the panels with a printed notice for exhibition. It will not be on cardboard, but we mention the fact. Messrs. Ford, Shapland & Co. inform us that they also print a notice card. This also is in accordance with the regulations, and, like ours, requires no endorsement from the local Committees.

EXTRA FEES.

The Worcester and District Chemists' Association, in their interviews with both the City and the County Insurance Committees, raised the question of extra charges being made for dispensing after closing hours. At the meeting of the County Insurance Committee on December 28 the Chairman, Mr. Willis Bund, reported the results of the interview with the chemists. He said the chemists are willing to accept the agreement, but they suggested an addition providing that insured persons should pay a small fee—a penny or twopence—after closing hours. The object was to stop people carrying prescriptions about with them all day, and then going to the shop after it was closed. The Chairman thought that the proposal a reasonable one, and moved that the Commissioners be asked to allow the chemists to make the charge. The resolution, however, was lost. At the meeting of the City Insurance Committee on December 30 the Chairman referred to this request. He said there is no power to charge insured persons the extra fee, and if it comes out of the drug fund there will be less for drugs, because the total account is limited to 2s. per insured person. Mr. A. E. Coverdale, a member of the Committee, who is the honorary Secretary of the Worcester Chemists' Association, said the chemists have no desire to be unreasonable. All they wanted was to discourage people from ringing up chemists at unreasonable hours. Alderman Leicester proposed that the double fee should be allowed only in cases where the prescriptions are marked "Urgent," and this suggestion was adopted and the agreement approved. At the same meeting the Chairman said the chemists had suggested that there should be a charge of a penny or twopence for the bottles, but the same argument applied to that. Mr. Coverdale, in the course of the discussion, said things are cut so fine that the pay works out at only 8d. per hour for a qualified man.

INSURANCE COMMITTEES' LIST.

Mr. James B. Francis, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee of Wales, points out with reference to the list in our issue of December 28, index folio 956,

that for National Insurance purposes the County Borough of Newport and the County of Monmouth are in Wales. We may also note that "Elgin and Moray" should have been printed, not "or"; that part of Scotland still has the distinction of being a Province.

MEDICAL INSTITUTES.

At the meeting of the Bath Insurance Committee on December 30 the question was discussed of approving the Bath Friendly Societies' Medical Institute. On the question of dispensing, Mr. Hallett pointed out that it is open to inspectors under the Sale of Food and Drugs, the Weights and Measures, and the Poisons and Pharmacy Acts to enter a chemist's shop. What guarantee would insured persons have that the dispensing will be carried on as in a properly equipped chemist's shop? The Chairman said an inspection would be made, on behalf of the Commissioners, of the arrangements made by each Committee in its area; and he thought it would be found that the inspection would not be confined to the doctors, but would also extend to the Institute. Mr. Hallett pointed out that the Bristol Insurance Committee had approved of four dispensaries subject to the conditions: That all weights and measures be tested and stamped; that the dispensing scales be made to comply with the regulations laid down by the Board of Trade for chemists; that all future appointments as dispensers should be confined to persons registered under the Pharmacy Act; and that the dispensers should have one half-holiday each week, commencing not later than 1.30 p.m. He moved that these conditions be made, and the suggestion was embodied in the resolution before the meeting.

NOTES.

The British Medical Association is calling another Representative Meeting for January 17 to consider the question of the pledge and the whole situation of medical practitioners as regards service under the Act.

Two shops in Portobello, near Edinburgh, have been licensed as a "National Insurance Benefits Surgery," and will be opened shortly "for insured persons and others." A poster concludes thus: "N.B.—Medicines for insured persons can be obtained from any chemist in this town."

"The Daily Citizen" is printing correspondence in regard to the claims of herbalists to get medical benefit of their own kind—i.e., herbalist practitioners and dispensers—on the panels. We may recall the interview of herbalists' representatives with Mr. Braithwaite, on behalf of Mr. Lloyd George, on November 4, 1911, when he assured them that under Sub-section 3 of the Medical Benefit Section "there could be no deprivations of the rights, liberties, and privileges of the insured." His idea was that if an insured person wants herbal treatment he should apply to the Insurance Committee for authority to get it. The interview was reported in the *C. & D.*, December 9, 1911, index folio 846.

At the meeting of the London Insurance Committee with South London doctors on Wednesday a series of questions were asked, says the "Daily Telegraph," with regard to the schedule of drugs, the charges for which were, it was suggested, in many cases excessive. It was stated, for instance, that the schedule price for a rubber ice-bag is 6s. 6d., though one can be bought for 1s. 4d.; and it was pointed out that one such item alone would deprive a doctor of his 6d. for drugs. Another instance cited was that of phenacetin tablets, which are scheduled at twelve for 4d., though the questioner asserted that he can obtain twenty-five for 4d. The Chairman replied that, if the facts are as stated, these are matters for negotiation; but he at the same time left it clear that the final word with regard to the price of drugs would not rest with the doctors.

It is stated unofficially that the returns respecting the medical panels show that about 6,000 had applied by December 31, that at least 8,000 doctors are required for efficient service, and 10,000 are really needed (see previous page). It is well to bear in mind that neither the doctors' nor chemists' panels are closed. Any eligible person may apply at any time to be placed upon the panels for service; all that the closing on December 31 means is that the first lists of chemists and doctors to be printed closed then. The publication of these lists is going to be an excellent advertisement for those who are named on them. On and after January 1 others who apply and are put on the panels may notify the fact to the public themselves, but doctors might be accused of advertising if they did so.

In the daily Press this week there has been a good deal about chemists' panels, and the completeness of the formation in various localities throughout England and Wales. We have kept our readers so well informed that we find nothing new in these newspaper paragraphs, except that they seem to have a common origin and the informant knows all about it from the inside. In Scotland "The Scotsman" has been notable for its uncompromising hostility to the Insurance Act, and bitter complaints about the chemists' tariff have been numerous and voluminous in its columns. In Welsh newspapers support of the Act is consistent. A well-informed article on the chemists' position appeared in the "Western Mail" on Boxing Day. In the course of this the position arising from the poundage system is referred to, and the principle of service to wives and children advocated by a *C. & D.* correspondent last week (index folio 965) is referred to favourably.

Ideas on Insurance Dispensing.

The following hints are selected from the postcards which have been sent in competition for the crowns which we offered for cards received not later than December 31. We offered a dozen crowns for the best ideas received and printed. The present is a first selection from the cards.

Window-display.

For this purpose the best method would seem to be to make a smart window-display of dispensing apparatus and requisites named in the tariff, together with original packages of the best brands of drugs, with a neat card announcing that prescriptions would be carefully prepared for Insurance patients with the best of medicines as hitherto.—*Dorothy Middler* (252 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh).

Seven Pointers.

- (1) Read up back numbers of *C. & D.* for particulars of how dispensing is done in hospitals and institutions.
- (2) Put aside small room or part of shop exclusively for the work.
- (3) Get a dozen glass barrels, with taps, to hold the leading waters and infusions.
- (4) Have the most-used salts in solution.
- (5) Have a second-year apprentice or a good junior to do the work, but check every script.
- (6) Send a personal letter to each doctor and a printed circular to each house in your district, stating your readiness to undertake the work.
- (7) Don't neglect your usual trade: Insurance dispensing is only an adjunct to your business.—*J. E. Lee* (Dover Villa, Dover Street, Hull).

Card and Handbill.

R. E. Price (pharmacist, Rhyl) has had the following handbill printed and distributed, also a large card for window-display:

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

Notice.

Do you come under this Act? If so, please remember that you are not obliged to go to any particular Chemist with your Prescription, or for anything else your Doctor may order.

You can choose any Qualified Chemist in your district who is on the official list.

The advantage of having your medicines dispensed at **PRICES** as that they are all prepared by the proprietor himself, who, besides being a qualified Chemist and Pharmacist, is also a Dispensing Medallist of the Westminster College of Pharmacy, London.

None but the Finest Quality Drugs kept in Stock.

Please note the only address, etc.

Display and Handbill.

Window.—Exhibit crude drugs and specimens seldom seen in their natural state, among which place some spare working tools—e.g., mortars, etc.—on the floor. On the first shelf place framed certificates of the pharmacist employed by the firm; on the top shelf old prescription-books, with window-slip, "These are the weapons with which we fight disease."

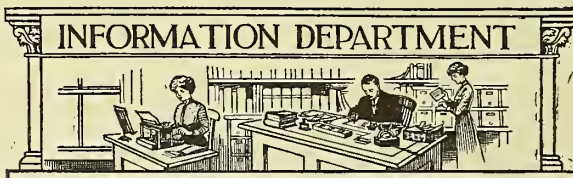
Handbill worded thus:

HEALTH INSURANCE ACT.

DISPENSING DEPARTMENT.

We will use the very purest drugs and follow every detail of the order implicitly. Should our efforts be of service in helping you back to health we shall deem ourselves doubly fortunate.

J. W. Todd (6 Atkinson's Buildings, Trimdon Street, Sunderland).



Postal Address:

C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS CANNON LONDON" (two words).

Telephone Number: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

Would any reader who knows please inform us by postcard or telephone of the names and addresses of the agents or makers of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 174/50. "Iodulcite": makers.
- 177/29. "Cresotan": suppliers.
- 176/17. "Rollert" vacuum flask.
- 174/47. "Hyogen": proprietors.
- 174/66. Mather's golden ointment.
- 177/67. Electro-ionic battery: supply.
- 177/43. "Seldj" toilet preparations: supply.
- 178/1. Burgess's plaster bandages for tendons.
- 168/54. "Seviadiar" pomade (Davies's): supply.
- 178/14. "Stafford Brooke's Treatment": address.
- 168/42. Hubbard's atomisers: makers or suppliers.
- 172/53. Dermatic dusting-powder (for rheumatism).
- 166/39. Hermes' "Liq. Delphinine": address of makers.
- 174/48. "Stranguline" (a veterinary preparation): supply.
- 177/39. Automatic machine for filling capsules by hand: makers.
- 166/6 and 171/9. Dr. Leith's cholera-mixture: proprietors or suppliers.
- 169/55. "Bouquet d'Amour" perfume (Douglas & Co., Isle of Wight).
- 177/290. "Antikenotoxin Osin Serum" (prepared by Professor Weichardt, Erlangen, Bavaria): supply.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles are obtainable wholesale. We shall be glad to repeat the information to others who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Allen's "Foot Ease" agents, 79/5 | Horse's (Dr.) tooth-brushes, 179/500 |
| Campholin, 173/46 | Liquid malt-extract, 175/18 |
| Camphylene, 173/460 | Morse's Indian root-pills, 176/69 |
| Capsule-filling machine, 170/29 | Moulds for wax, etc., 174/9 |
| Combs for colouring grey hair, 172/50 | Neutrolon, 173/461 |
| Crêpe bandages, 175/54 | Palatal, 174/49 |
| Creta gall. pulv. (first-hands), 176/510 | Palmitic acid (Austrian inquiry), 169/42 |
| Elsenham lavender-water, 174/660 | Parfum seduction, 165/62 |
| Epsom salts (Continental makers), 172/73 | Pluviusin waterproof sheeting, 170/25 |
| Face-powders, beauty creams, etc. (makers), 171/73 | Rapid Steel Co.'s safety-razors, 173/42 |
| Ferri sulph. commercial (manufacturers), 176/51 | Ratmus, 174/66 |
| French exporters of sundries (East Indian inquiry), 173/4 | Sanitol specialties, 177/29 |
| Friedmann's serum (Indian inquiry), 173/11 | Stearine (inquiry from Vienna), 169/420 |
| "H. S. & M." specialties, 177/38 | Sulphur, etc., saline, 176/16 |
| Hensel's tonic, 170/12 | Synthetic milk, 148/15 |
| "Holder" pneumatic disinfecting spray, 173/73 | Tyrian atomisers, 174/47 |
| | Urodonal, 176/27 |
| | "Water Lily" brand specialties, 177/13 |
| | Whitall Tatum's goods, 176/19 |

APPRECIATION.

From a Wholesale Firm of Dealers in Foreign Specialities:

"We consider that your Information Column is quite one of the best features of your thoroughly up-to-date trade journal, and we must acknowledge with many thanks the valuable information received on many occasions." (130/72.)

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xraver II.

The New Conditions

facing us with this new year will make 1913 a landmark in our history for many years to come. The problem how to adapt ourselves to these new conditions will not be solved all at once, and a good deal of friction may be anticipated before doctors, pharmacists, and committees (to say nothing of insured persons) lie down together as amicably as the calf, the young lion, and the fatling of the prophet's vision. I hope nobody will accuse me of classing doctors, pharmacists, and committees under these three heads, or suppose that, doing so, I apportion their respective rôles; all I wish to do is to urge the pharmacist, whether calf or young lion (the wildest imagination cannot picture him as a fatling), to look after his share of provender before composing himself to slumber. It is, as you say, not sufficient to go on the panel, any more than it is to open shop, though this is the first thing, and I am glad to see that with very few exceptions (and those chiefly in the smaller provincial towns) pharmacists everywhere are filling up the panels without delay. But more than this is necessary to

Make Insurance Dispensing Profitable.

I am not competing for your timely offered prize, but I venture to add one suggestion to the many you will receive, and to think that probably it is as valuable as any one of them. Not less acceptable than a cheerful giver is a cheerful worker; the man who takes up this new duty heartily, not as of necessity, but as if he loved it, will find it pay him best. Neither pleasure nor profit ever yet came of a grumbling, grudging service, and my advice to my brother on the panel is to go in as if he believed in and welcomed this business with his whole heart and soul—but at the same time to make the best bargain he can with his employers. This will bring him more custom than the most cunningly devised circular, and he will have no cause to fear the workhouse solution of our problem so humorously suggested by our Scottish Omar.

That Practical Socialism

should find its fullest development under a benevolent despotism seems paradoxical, but if Germany be taken as the example we must agree that nowhere has the working man less political power and nowhere does he more enjoy the blessings of a compulsory socialism. I am not sure that he does enjoy it, but if not, he grins and bears it. The scheme of insurance of employes with incomes of less than 250*l.* a year which comes in force this week in Germany is enough to make the flesh creep of those good people in this country who have hitherto thought that Mr. Lloyd George was "the limit." Chemists' assistants in this country have been grumbling at our insurance against invalidity. What would they say if they are compelled to pay in addition in order to secure themselves a pension? The payments for the higher salaried employes are no small matter either; for it is no joke to be docked of 12*l.* or 16*l.* a year, with the prospect of the employer reducing the salary to make up for his loss. What puzzles me is, where does the poor employer come in? for there must be thousands of employers in Germany who do not earn 250*l.* a year.

The Liverpool Decision

under the Shops Act, whereby a chemist was fined for selling embrocation, seems very absurd, and I hope that some arrangement will be made

for taking a test-case to a higher court. The practical outcome is, if this decision correctly interprets the law, that nothing can be sold by a chemist in closing hours except what is urgently required at the moment. If the customer or the party for whom he was making the purchase were suffering from an attack of rheumatism it would be quite in order to sell the embrocation; but if it be a case of laying in a supply for use in an attack which might recur at any moment, but which had not yet recurred, then I suppose the sale is illegal. In the latter case the stickler for legality would say that the victim of chronic rheumatism ought to have exercised a little foresight and procured the embrocation before one o'clock and therefore he must pay the penalty by suffering the pain till such time as the remedy can be legally purchased. All this is very interesting and rather amusing but what is still more wonderful is the ingenuity with which traps are laid for innocent men who no doubt think they are doing a highly meritorious and Christian act by supplying the rheumatic public with the means of cure. What the final outcome of this line of prosecution—or shall I call it persecution?—is going to be is not clear but it is at all events another illustration of what you recently called the Shops Act Muddle.

The Dental Decision

given by Mr. Curtis Bennett that a dentist is not contravening the law in this country by calling himself "D.D.S., U.S.A.," is of some significance. If it be allowed to stand it might open the way to considerable abuse, while, on the other hand, much injustice might follow were the use of such letters held to be illegal. It would not be difficult for an unregistered dentist in this country to procure a so-called "diploma" by payment of fees and by an examination conducted by correspondence, and if a demand arose for such "diplomas" there would soon be plenty of opportunities given for procuring supplies. This is the sort of thing where the appetite grows on what it feeds upon, and once the notion catches on, we may see the country flooded with incorporated extractors in all the glory of "D.D.S. U.S.A." Doubtless, too, the piece of paper would be well worth the money, for as an advertisement L.D.S. is none in the same street with D.D.S. in the eyes of the servant girls who keep such a large proportion of the dental profession, qualified and unqualified, in existence.

Your "Miscellaneous Inquiries" Column

never fails to provide matter of interest to the curious, and illustrate admirably both the encyclopaedic knowledge requisite in conducting the *C. & D.* and the multifarious character of our calling. Pharmacy is indeed as interesting as it is exacting, and nobody of any intelligence can follow it without perforce picking up much quaint and curious lore in addition to his more strictly scientific acquirements. It is especially so with the country chemist, but the particular case which suggests these remarks might have occurred anywhere, and few men, I fancy, would have been able to deal with it off-hand. I refer to the query concerning pulv. cynoglossi, which you answered last week. I cannot say why hound's-tongue—which, though I had a popular reputation as a remedy against hydrophobia (Turner, the herbalist, says he cured himself of this disease with it), had never much value in professional eyes—should have given its name to what was essentially an opiate; but so it was. It was indeed credited with some narcotic property as well as with astringency, but probably its strong distinctive smell, which earned for it a very unsavoury name, had much to do with its use. The pill was adopted into our Pharmacopœia from Mesue or one of his followers, and survived officially until the middle of the eighteenth century, but I did not know that it is still in demand. The official preparation was a compound of hound's-tongue, henbane-seeds, opium, mastic, saffron, olibanum, castoreum, and storax.

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Editorial Articles.

A New Epoch in Pharmacy.

I. Realisation.

Now that the chemists of Great Britain have, with few exceptions, agreed to perform what has been called "pharmacy service" under the National Insurance Act, we enter upon a new epoch in pharmacy. That certain things will happen, that many retail chemists will lose some of the money that they have hitherto made by application of their skill and knowledge in the dispensing of medical prescriptions, and that some change will also take place in public demand for medicines, are future events which may be prognosticated with some certainty; but before considering these and other matters connected with the "pharmacy service," it seems desirable to point out a few of the things pharmaceutical which have been realised through the National Insurance Act. The first of these is the State recognition of registered chemists as the dispensers of medical prescriptions. Perhaps this is more valued by those connected with pharmaceutical administration than by the rank and file, because our administrators know better the extraordinary difficulties which they and their predecessors have had to contend with in this matter during the past six decades. Time and again they have gone to Parliament with a request to restrict the dispensing of medical prescriptions to a special class of qualified persons—namely, registered chemists—but they have never succeeded. This is all the more remarkable considering that the principle was adopted by Parliament in 1875, when the first Pharmacy Act for Ireland was passed. The National Insurance Act has entirely changed the complexion of matters so far as Great Britain is concerned, so that on the next occasion of the amendment of our Poisons and Pharmacy Acts a provision similar to the Irish one should not be difficult to get for Great Britain, if chemists have done Insurance dispensing satisfactorily. We do not anticipate that they will not, but the reservation has to be mentioned. A second remarkable result of the National Insurance Act is the revelation of the great value of Section 3 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908. Without that section the initial amalgamation, for dis-

dispensing panel purposes, of the diverse elements embodied in company and individual pharmacy, which was brought about by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., in his capacity as Parliamentary Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, could not have been done. Indeed, without it the provision contained in Section 15 (5) of the National Insurance Act could not have been formulated. The 1908 Act made the recognition of registered chemists as dispensers a possibility. Had limited companies not been brought within the purview of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, chemists could not have hoped to get the Bill introduced by Mr. Lloyd George satisfactorily amended in this respect. A third important consideration arises when the terms of the sub-section are considered along with the terms of Section 3 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908. Although these may be familiar, or accessible, to some of our readers, they may not be to all, and we therefore reprint them:

National Insurance Act, Section 15 (5, iii).

Subject to the regulations made by the last foregoing proviso the regulations shall prohibit arrangements for the dispensing of medicines being made with persons other than persons, firms, or bodies corporate entitled to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, as amended by the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, who undertake that all medicines supplied by them to insured persons shall be dispensed either by or under the direct supervision of a registered pharmacist or by a person who, for three years immediately prior to the passing of this Act, has acted as a dispenser to a duly qualified medical practitioner or a public institution.

Section 3 of the 1908 Act.

(1) Any person who, being a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, carries on the business of pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist shall, unless in every premises where the business is carried on the business is *bonâ fide* conducted by himself or some other duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, as the case may be, and unless the name and certificate of qualification of the person by whom the business is so conducted in any premises is conspicuously exhibited in the premises, be guilty of an offence under Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

(2) The provisions of Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which enable the executor, administrator, or trustee of the estate of a deceased pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist to continue his business so long as such business is *bonâ fide* conducted by a duly qualified assistant, shall be construed as enabling such executor, administrator, or trustee to carry on the business if and so long only as, in every premises where the business is carried on, the business is *bonâ fide* conducted by a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, as the case may be, and the name and certificate of qualification of the person by whom the business is so conducted in any premises is conspicuously exhibited in the premises.

(3) A registered chemist or druggist may, notwithstanding anything in Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, take, use, or exhibit the name or title of pharmacist.

(4) A body corporate, and in Scotland a firm or partnership, may carry on the business of a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist—

(a) if the business of the body corporate, firm, or partnership, so far as it relates to the keeping, retailing, and dispensing of poisons, is under the control and management of a superintendent who is a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, whose name has been forwarded to the Registrar appointed under the Pharmacy Act, 1852, to be entered by him in a register to be kept for that purpose, and who does not act at the same time in a similar capacity for any other body corporate, firm, or partnership; and

(b) if in every premises where such business as aforesaid is carried on, and is not personally conducted by the superintendent, such business is *bonâ fide* conducted under the direction of the superintendent by a manager or assistant who is a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, and whose certificate of qualification is conspicuously exhibited in the shop or other place in which he so conducts the business.

A body corporate, and in Scotland a firm or partnership, may use the description of chemist and druggist, or of

chemist or of druggist, or of dispensing chemist or druggist, if the foregoing requirements as to the carrying on of the business are observed, and if the superintendent is a member of the board of directors or other governing body of the body corporate, or of the firm or partnership, as the case may be. Subject as aforesaid, Section 12 of the Pharmacy Act, 1852, and Sections 1 and 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, shall apply to a body corporate, and in Scotland to a firm or partnership, in like manner as they apply to an individual.

Now, it is part of the agreement of every chemist, company, and firm who has contracted for Insurance dispensing that the conditions of Section 3 are strictly complied with. This means that the Pharmaceutical Society is to have an ally in the enforcement of the Act, and that that ally will have agents in the shape of local Insurance Committees, besides the pharmacy inspectors who are to be appointed by the Insurance Commissioners. No doubt the duties of these inspectors will be chiefly concerned with accountancy and control of pharmaceutical matters which are unconnected with law, but that these National Insurance Act provisions will make for more strict observation of pharmacy law is certain. Perhaps we cannot mention anything more important than the fact that no Insurance medical prescription can be dispensed in a shop which is not managed by a registered chemist, no matter who the owner of the shop may be. This is a realisation which the most Utopian pharmacist of the nineteenth century did not dream of as a possibility in the twentieth. Much more has happened of which the significance is scarcely appreciated throughout the trade. They are embodied in the sub-section and section which we have quoted, and reconsideration of which we strongly commend to every man of business in British pharmacy. Doubtless also time will bring to the surface applications and interpretations which at present do not appear.

The American Tariff.

THE question of tariff revision in the United States is to be dealt with again early this month, the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives having made an official announcement to this effect. Having regard to the pledge given by the Democrats to put tariff revision first and foremost, there is a disposition to expedite the hearings, and the evidence to be tendered will be much briefer than that given under the Underwood Bill. In fact, it is the intention not to invite any particular person to testify on the drug and chemical schedule, but to leave the field open to those who may be disposed to appear and voluntarily give their testimony, thus disposing of any charges of favoritism. It is stated in the "American Druggist" that the schedules will probably be dealt with in alphabetical order in which they occur in the present tariff law. This means that drug and chemical evidence will be heard almost immediately, and as only two days are to be devoted to the hearing of evidence on this schedule, the bulk of it will no doubt be formally handed to the Committee in writing. It will be remembered that in March and April of last year many important proposed changes were made by the Underwood Chemical Tariff Revision Bill, which passed the House of Representatives and was rejected by the Senate by the small majority of five. It was then felt that the drug and chemical schedule, although worked out under expert knowledge, was not in a form acceptable to the leading members of the trades concerned. Especially was this the case with regard to the section referring to raw materials for use in the chemical industry. These, it may be recalled, were taxed rather heavily, and several items that had been on the free

list were made dutiable. It is in respect to these raw materials that the most important changes are likely to be made, but on the whole an effort will probably be made to retain the outlines of the previous Bill. Among the more important changes in crude drugs are essential oils. We may recall that it was proposed that buchu-leaves, ergot, and crude iodine, hitherto free, were to be dutiable at 10c. per lb.; coca-leaves were advanced from 5c. to 10c.; and some of the leading essential oils, like star-anise, bergamot, lemon, and caraway, now free, were to pay 20 per cent. *ad valorem*; the duty proposed on crude and dried opium was to be doubled at \$3 and \$4 per lb. respectively; also morphine was to pay the doubled rate of \$3 per oz., and cocaine \$2 per oz.; menthol now pays 25 per cent. *ad val.*, but the Underwood proposal is 50c. per lb. Acacia and copal, of which the United States are large importers, hitherto on the free list, were to pay ½c. per lb., and kauri, also free, will pay 1c. per lb. The above are a few of the proposed alterations, which involve several hundred articles, and a perusal of the full list shows that new import duties are being placed on raw materials which cannot be produced in the United States—yet the Underwood Bill was an attempt to “reduce duties.” It will be interesting to see if the general principle of placing an import duty on drug and chemical raw materials, now proposed for the first time, will be allowed to remain. The opinion is held in American drug-circles that due consideration will be given to the interests concerned before any radical changes take place; but meanwhile this prospective legislation will probably exercise a deterrent effect on import business for the next two or three months.

Patent-medicine Inquiry.

Next Thursday the sittings will be resumed of the Select Committee on Patent Medicines, and, judging by the cuttings from local newspapers which we have seen, speculation is rife as to the future witnesses, and especially those to be put forward by the Pharmaceutical Society. In “The Lancet” the statement is made that “no witness representing the views of pharmacists as a body has appeared before the Committee.” Mr. Umney, President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, has given evidence, and represents pharmacists in a wide sense, as well as the Chemical Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, who expressly deputed him to give evidence. Doubtless the President or other witnesses of the Pharmaceutical Society are ready to give evidence in due course. Whether this official evidence should have preceded that of the London Chamber of Commerce is another matter, but a little patience must be exercised, particularly by medical men, who monopolised the attention of the Committee from May to November. The time spent over the consideration of the medical views was hardly justified except in so far as it was made obvious that medical motives in the matter of proprietary-medicine prohibition are not so pure as would appear. “The Lancet” refers to the British Pharmaceutical Conference discussion on proprietary medicines, and states that “there is no evidence that anything has since occurred to change the attitude of pharmacists in regard to this question.” From this we judge that Mr. Umney has not succeeded in impressing the medical members of the Committee that the circumstances under which the inquiry was made were not such that the conclusions arrived at can be regarded as representing pharmacy in this country, and the fact is ignored that the inquiry was engineered by Mr. Harrison, whose connection with the

British Medical Association made him a sort of medical agent in this matter. Perhaps the witnesses from the Pharmaceutical Society will make these points clear.

International Congress of Pharmacy.

The English edition of the programme of the eleventh International Congress of Pharmacy has been issued this week. The Congress, which is to be held at the Kurhaus, Scheveningen, The Hague, Holland, from September 17 to 21, is being organised by the Netherland Pharmaceutical Society (Nederlandsche Maatschappij ter bevordering der Pharmacie), and the General Secretary is Mr. J. J. Hofman, 4 Schenkweg, The Hague. There are three classes of adherents—viz., patrons, ordinary members, and extraordinary members, the subscriptions being 2*l.* 1*s.*, 10*s.* 8*d.*, and 8*s.* 4*d.* respectively. The third class consists of members of the family of an ordinary member. The sections of the Congress are: (1) General subjects (legislation, history, education, etc.); (2) galenical pharmacy; (3) chemistry; (4) botany and materia medica; and (5) bromatology. Papers may be written in Dutch, French, English, or German, which are the official languages of the Congress, but abridged reports in French may be required from contributors. The programme will be supplied to those interested on application to the General Secretary.

Facts about Digitalis.

In the course of a communication to the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan (“Journal,” No. 369), S. Hirohashi follows up his previous work on this subject, and his results are of interest in view of Martindale’s recent observations. He used cold and warm water, absolute and diluted alcohol, and chloroform as menstrua. For the physiological tests the frog (*Rana esculenta*) was used according to the Focke method. The results are as follows:

- (1) The active properties of digitalis-leaves can mostly be extracted with much cold water, especially gitalin, which is soluble in water.
- (2) The infusion method is practically right, but concentrated infusion is not advantageous.
- (3) Absolute alcohol is the best menstruum.
- (4) Digitalis infusion loses scarcely any of its effects by evaporation.
- (5) Digitalis-leaves, which differ in size and colour according to their position on the stalk, also possess a clearly graduated difference in physiological effect, which diminishes from the top downwards.
- (6) On account of diminution in activity, the leaves should be removed before budding-time, the lower leaves being rejected.

The author also experimented with digitalis flowers, fruit, and stalks, with the following results:

- (1) The flowers probably contain more active principles than the leaves.
- (2) The activity of the flowers is strongest in the budding state, and during the blooming it is weaker.
- (3) The difference between the activity of red and white flowers is not appreciable.
- (4) If the flowers are well preserved, their activity is retained nearly unchanged for over a year.

As to the last-mentioned result the author found that an absolute alcohol extract of flowers fourteen months old was stronger physiologically than a similar preparation of fresh leaves. So far as the activity of the fruit is concerned, he puts it at the same as the leaves, while the leaf-stalk is not so active as the leaves.

The Warranty Defence.

Much significance attaches to some of the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Bill, when considered in connection with the known fact that the President of the Local Government Board intends shortly to introduce a general measure to amend the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. The

Milk and Dairies Bill empowers the Local Government Board to make orders designed *inter alia* to protect the public against the adulteration of milk, and, in addition, provides that a warranty shall no longer be available as a defence under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts where the article in respect of which the proceedings are taken is milk. Many competent observers have long held the view that the sale of milk should be controlled by regulations different from those which attach to the sale of drugs and general "groceries," and it now appears that this view is accepted by the Local Government Board. If the warranty defence be abolished in the case of milk, the ground is cut away from under the feet of those who have for years agitated for the total abolition of that defence under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. So far, then, from the Milk and Dairies Bill being opposed on the ground that it affords a precedent for the general abolition of the warranty defence, it is probably a saner thing for retailers of drugs to welcome the proposal. If the milk warranty goes, there is probably very little reason to fear that there will remain any demand for amending the Acts in this respect with regard to drugs and other articles, since it is a matter of common knowledge that it is almost solely in the case of milk that difficulty and trouble over warranties have been experienced by local authorities administering the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Chemists' Calendars.

THE INTERNATIONAL BOTTLE CO., 108 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., supply monthly blotter-calendars, one end of each slip being perforated so that it can be used as a request for quotations.

MR. H. STACEY HALL, pharmacist, 117A and 119 Medlock Street, Hulme, Manchester, S.W., issues to his customers a combination wall-calendar and letter-rack, with a pretty "Oilette" view in the upper part.

A BOLD CALENDAR for business purposes is issued by Messrs. Harrison & Waide, printers, Kirkstall Road, Leeds. The measurement of the card is 13 in. by 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. The tear-off portions, each for six days, are printed in white letters on red ground.

MESSRS. POTTER & CLARKE, LTD., wholesale druggists, 60 to 64 Artillery Lane, London, E., issue a calendar with monthly tear-offs. The front has upon it a colour sketch of London from the river, and on the back, handy for reference, are given antidotes to poisons.

THE NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY, YORK, issue a wall-calendar with twelve monthly sheets in a metal frame. The feature of each sheet is an illustration in colour of some branch of industry carried on at various places on the North Eastern Railway. The views are fine artistic studies.

THE BRITISH DRUG HOUSES, LTD., wholesale druggists, 22 to 30 Graham Street, City Road, London, N., send out a calendar arranged as a memorandum-pad. Each month occupies one page of the calendar, and has its own special reminders of the season's requisites. We notice at the end some useful memoranda, which should tend to facilitate business. Particulars are given, for example, of business hours and motor and van deliveries, with other notes, such as the following:

All goods ought to be signed for "Not examined" to ensure consideration of any claim should damage have occurred in transit. If visibly damaged, this should be stated and notice sent to carrier's local agent and—with details—to us. Railway carriers' regulations provide that claims must be lodged within three days.

MR. THOMAS A. SPIVEY, prescription pharmacist, Rio Vista, California, has sent us a wonderful wall-calendar, containing, in addition to the calendar portion, a mass of information regarding the Panama Canal, the opening of which is to be the world's event of 1915. There are maps of the Canal, a Mercator's projection of the World, of the Western United States, San Francisco, and San Diego, with many views of the chief attractions in the last two cities and on the Canal route.

MESSRS. STAFFORD ALLEN & SONS, LTD., 7 Cowper Street, Finsbury, London, E.C., are sending to their customers in the wholesale trade calendars, the feature of each being

a beautifully reproduced colour-photograph of either a field of lavender, digitalis, or chamomile. We have not seen anything before quite so nice as these calendars, which will bring a pleasant touch of Nature into many wholesale houses where conditions do not usually remind the workers of the delights of the country.

MESSRS. TOMLINSON & HAYWARD, LTD., manufacturing chemists, Lincoln, issue a large size wall-calendar with monthly sheets, which they supply to chemists for distribution to farmers and gardeners. The name of the agent is printed on the front page. Chemists who apply for the calendars should state the number required. Messrs. Tomlinson & Hayward, Ltd., also call attention to their brand of water-glass for egg-preserving, for which the demand is a growing one owing to the increase in the price of eggs during the winter. The agent's name is printed on the labels of the tins.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

Mosla Oil.—Nurayama and Nara ("J. Phar. Soc., Japan") finds that, in addition to carvacrol and *p*-cymol, the essential oil of *Mosla japonica*, Maxim, contains α -pinene.

Kephalidon.—This new remedy is the hydrobromic-acid salt of amino-acet-paraphenetidin-caffeine. It is a soluble compound of the formula $C_{16}H_{20}O_5N_2Br$, and melts at 192°. It is a white, bitter-tasting, crystalline powder, soluble in warm water, and is recommended in cases of migraine and neurasthenia. The dose is 6 grains, or 20 grains a day, dissolved in water, coffee, or tea.

Detection of Methyl Alcohol.—Wirthle ("Zeit. Nahr. Genuss," 1912, 24, 14) gives the following as a reliable method for the detection of methyl alcohol in ethyl alcohol: From 100 c.c., 50 c.c. is distilled, and this is again twice distilled, the final distillate being oxidised with potassium permanganate and sulphuric acid. The liquid is filtered, and to 1 c.c. of the filtrate 5 c.c. of sulphuric acid and 5 mg. of morphine hydrochloride are added. If methyl alcohol be present, a violet colour develops.

Basil Oil.—Two samples of oil of basil from the island of Mayotte have been examined by Messrs. Roure Bertrand Fils. They differ from the oil of basil distilled in Grasse or Bourbon by their high specific gravity and dextrorotation. The Mayotte oil is, however, of excellent odour. The characters of the two oils were as follows:

	1	2
Specific gravity at 15° ...	0.9677	0.9630
Optical rotation ...	+0° 58'	+0° 56'
Acid-value ...	1.4	0.7
Saponification-value ...	5.6	6.3
Esters as linyl acetate ...	1.9 %	2.2 %

New Hydrogen Spectra.—"Nature" (90, p. 466) refers to the discovery in 1896, by Professor E. C. Pickering, of a series of lines in the spectrum of the star *Zeta Puppis*, which was attributed to hydrogen, while Sir Norman Lockyer gave the name "proto-hydrogen" to the gas which produced the lines in question, and others called it "cosmic" hydrogen. The lines have not hitherto been found in terrestrial hydrogen, but at a meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society on December 13 Mr. A. Fowler reported that he had succeeded in producing four lines of the principal series, three of the *Zeta Puppis* series, and three lines of an ultra-violet series not previously suspected. The lines were obtained in a mixture of hydrogen and helium, through which a strong condensed discharge was passed. They could not be obtained with hydrogen alone.

New Thymol Derivatives.—Bachem ("Pharm. Zeit.," 1912, 905) has prepared a number of thymol derivatives of considerable pharmaceutical interest. Thymotinic acid, $(CH_3)_2CH_2(C_2H_5)(OH)(COOH)$, is an aromatic acid whose constitution stands midway between those of thymol and salicylic acid. It forms white crystals insoluble in cold water, slightly soluble in hot water and easily in most organic solvents. It forms a soluble sodium salt. It is a powerful antiseptic, and has strong anti-rheumatic properties. Thymacetol, or thymotinic acid acetone ester, $(CH_3)_2CH_2(C_2H_5)(OH)(COO.CH_3.CO.CH_3)$, is a white crystalline powder melting at 75°, soluble in organic solvents. It is a powerful local anæsthetic, especially when dissolved in another new compound prepared by the same chemist—namely, the menthyl ester of ethoxy-propionic acid, $C_{10}H_{19}O.CO.CH_3.CO.CH_3$. A 10-per-cent. solution of thymacetol in this body is said to form a valuable local anæsthetic.

Lecture Epilogues.

THE first of the series of Christmas lectures to juveniles was delivered at the Royal Institution on December 28 by Professor Sir James Dewar. There was a large audience, the front seats being reserved for children. Sir James has designated the present series of lectures as epilogues, explaining to the audience that an epilogue is a short speech or poem at the end of a play, intended chiefly to reconcile the audience with the piece or the actor and to send them away in good humour. As it is more than a third of a century ago since he first gave a course of lectures in the Royal Institution, his epilogue meant rather the conclusion of his work. The time comes, he said, when we must all quit the stage and leave it in younger hands, and his present purpose is to let the present generation know the kind of lectures which he gave to another generation many years ago. The lecture began by tracing the origin of chemistry from the production of fire, primitive methods of doing this being shown. Then the effects of heat were noted, which led to the smelting of metals and production of glass and earthenware. The early Egyptians knew of the use of the blowpipe and balance. In a lantern-slide which was projected on the screen alchemy was divided as follows: (1) Chemical arts of Indians, Egyptians, and Hebrews; (2) Greek and Roman arts; (3) Alexandrian school; (4) Middle Ages as typified by Rhazes, Avicenna, Geber, Albertus Magnus, Roger Bacon, Lully, and Basil Valentine; (5) medical chemistry of Paracelsus, Libarius, Glauber, Van Helmont, and Agricola; (6) era of ascertained facts and methods inaugurated by Boyle and continued by Black, Cavendish, Priestley, and Scheele; and (7) modern chemistry, begun by Lavoisier. Continuing the lecture, Sir James Dewar showed experimentally the spheroidal state of water, and astonished the audience by the daring experiment of pouring molten lead without injury over the hands of one of his assistants. The assistant had previously in sight of the audience washed his hands, and with them still wet he played with the stream of glowing metal. There was also shown the production of iron sulphide from rods of sulphur and red-hot iron, and the lecture ended with a demonstration of the instantaneous solidification of super-saturated solutions by means of crystals of the salts in solution. The three quests of the alchemists were (1) the philosopher's stone, (2) the elixir of life, and (3) the universal solvent. It is not generally known that Sir Isaac Newton between the years 1683 and 1687 experimented with alchemy for several hours each day, in the hope that he might learn how to transmute metals. A series of lantern-slides included several of the alchemist pictures of Teniers, portraits of Paracelsus and Dr. Dee, diagrams from alchemical writings, including the famous Abracadabra, and illustrations of old chemical apparatus.

The second lecture, on "Atoms," on December 31 was also well attended. Most of the experiments related to gases, in order to demonstrate more easily the atomic theory. The belief of the ancient alchemists that silver on heating remained unaffected was demonstrated to be incorrect. A glowing circle of this metal was watched from the surrounding darkness for a few minutes by hundreds of eyes, then a sudden eruption was seen, the escaping oxygen completely kindling a glowing splinter. The synthesis of water was also carried out in Cavendish's original pear-shaped vessel. Next the combination of ammonia and hydrochloric acid to form a solid was strikingly illustrated. Sir James pointed out that particles of gases are always in motion, moving at the rate of over a mile a minute from one part of space to the other. The motion of molecules was imitated by electrified pith-balls dancing in a glass chamber between metal plates, the rapid irregular motion (due to collision) of the balls glowing in the limelight forming an apt illustration. The different rates at which gases diffuse was also demonstrated. The lecturer said all bodies could be transformed into gas and thus made capable of diffusion. By the aid of a projecting microscope, the regular laying of molecules in crystal formation was demonstrated, the progressive crystallisation of a thin film of ammonium chloride solution showing this well.

WINTER SESSION.

Reporters, and Secretaries of Associations whose meetings are not open to reporters, are requested to send their reports to the Editor not later than the Wednesday following the meeting.

Chemists' Dental Society The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Benson Harries, 84 Commercial Road, Newport, Mon., has issued a spirited appeal for members, in which the advantages offered by the Society are stated as follows:

1. Offers a means of combination to dental chemists for protective and other purposes.
2. Grants certificates to its members.
3. Accumulates a fund for fighting purposes.
4. Provides insurance for its members against accidents or mistakes in dental practice, up to 100% per annum, in addition to legal expenses.
5. Keeps them in touch with matters connected with dentistry by issuing an occasional C.D.S. bulletin.
6. Arranges technical instruction, etc., etc.

The subscription, 21s. per annum, includes insurance premium, and to obtain full benefits the amount should be sent as early in the year as possible. Eight hon. local secretaries who are prepared to act as instructors are referred to in the circular.

Grimsby.—A meeting of the Grimsby District Pharmacists' Association was held at the Oberon Hotel on December 23. Mr. Cor. Willson (President) in the chair. There were also present seven members and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. H. Ashton). The Secretary was appointed as representative of Cleethorpes, Immingham, Grimsby, Caistor, and Brigg at a meeting of the Lincoln Insurance Committee arranged for December 29. A letter from Mr. Dennis (Louth) suggesting that a Central Association should be formed for the whole of Lindsey was discussed, and it was left to the Secretary to bring the matter before the representatives from different districts whom he would meet on Friday. It was decided to ask the Pharmaceutical Society to arrange for a meeting at an early date with the object of forming a central Association for Lincolnshire. Mr. Colley raised the question of an extra fee for dispensing under the National Insurance Act after shop hours. A committee, consisting of the President, Mr. Moore, Mr. Ellis, and Mr. Dewing, was appointed to arrange the matter for presentation to the Insurance Committee.

Somerset.—Mr. John Cooper, of Weston-super-Mare, presided at a meeting of pharmacists held at the Town Hall, Bridgwater, on December 26, when it was decided to form the Somerset County Pharmacists' Association. Twenty-seven chemists were enrolled as members, and the following officers were elected: *President*, Mr. Chas. Clutterbuck; *Treasurer*, Mr. John Cooper; *Secretary*, Mr. Ernest Widgery. The following six members representing certain districts were elected to a *Committee*: Messrs. Basker, Ricketts, Boyd, Halstead, Hodder, and Hoyles. Since the meeting others have sent in their names for membership.

DINNERS.

THE Christmas festivities in connection with Messrs. Newball & Mason, Nottingham, took the form of an "Extract" dinner and entertainment on December 27. Mr. B. Deaville was chairman, and after dinner the "Maville" concert-party presented a long programme of songs and recitations. The items on the tastefully printed programme of the evening's proceedings were interspersed with appropriate poetic quotations.

The directors, representatives, and heads of departments of Messrs. C. R. Harker, Stagg & Morgan, Ltd., dined together on December 23 at Cannon Street Hotel, London, E.C. Mr. T. White occupied the chair, and Mr. S. Morgan the vice-chair. After dinner and the loyal toasts, the Chairman reviewed the progress of the company during the past year, alluding particularly to the very satisfactory developments which have been made in so many directions. Matters of a business nature were then discussed in detail, the more serious proceedings being leavened by an excellent musical programme, to which both professional and amateur talent contributed; among the latter the efforts of Messrs. J. A. R. Smiley, H. W. Harrie, and W. A. C. Attwood added greatly to the enjoyment of the company present.

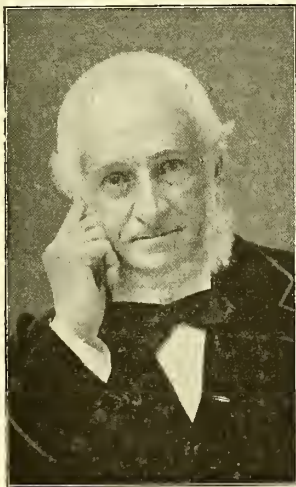
The whole of the staff of Messrs. Raimes & Co., wholesale druggists, Micklegate House, York, dined together on December 21, the occasion being the closing of the sick-fund, which is no longer needed owing to the coming into operation of the National Insurance Act. Mr. S. Scruton, J.P., was in the chair, and he was supported by his two partners,

Mr. W. C. Birks and Mr. A. Scruton. The Chairman, in his speech, announced that the surplus of the fund, which amounts to seven-eighths of what had been collected during the past four years, would be divided there and then among the employés according to the rules. The money having been distributed, a smoking-concert followed. During an interval Mr. Birks explained the revised conditions of employment consequent upon the closing of the sick-fund, under which the firm propose to supplement the sickness benefit of the National Insurance Act by ensuring full wages during the first two weeks of illness. At other intervals toasts were proposed.

Ransoms of Hitchin.

THE old-established business of William Ransom & Son, herb-growers, essential-oil distillers, and manufacturers of pharmaceutical products, Hitchin, has been converted into a private limited company as from January 1, 1913, with Mr. Francis Ransom, Ph.C., F.C.S., as chairman, and Mr. Alfred Latchmore, Ph.C., and Mr. John Beddall Smith, Ph.C., as his co-directors. The capital of the company is 30,000*l.*, and it takes over all the interests of the business, including the freehold buildings (laboratories, offices, and warehouses) at Hitchin, but not the agricultural land. Mr. William Ransom retains an interest in the business as a shareholder, but he has not taken an active part in the management since he entrusted that some years ago to his son, Mr. Francis Ransom.

The business is one of the most interesting in the United Kingdom. The Ransom family of Friends has been resident in Hitchin since the seventeenth century,



MR. WILLIAM RANSOM.

and Mr. William Ransom was born there in 1826. After his schooling he went to Thomas and William Southall, Birmingham, as an apprentice. While still a minor he returned to Hitchin in 1845 to open a pharmacy in Sun Street there, also to start cultivation of aromatic and medicinal plants, with a view to the distillation of essential oils and the manufacture of extracts, such as belladonna and henbane. Accommodation for this work he found in a range of buildings belonging to his father, part of which is still retained and serves well for

storage purposes, although nearly two hundred years old. In these buildings, when Mr. Ransom had access to them in the 'forties, was a still which his grandmother had used for distilling sweet herbs; with that he commenced, and by 1850 his name was known as a cultivator of herbs, distiller of lavender and peppermint oils, and manufacturer of galenicals. An interesting article, entitled "A Visit to Mr. Ransom's Physic Farms," by Mr. Charles W. Quin, F.C.S., was published in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, December 15, 1863. In the course of it the writer said:

Every pharmacist who visited the International Exhibition of 1862 will remember the neat case of pharmaceutical preparations shown by Mr. W. Ransom, which won for him not only the well-deserved prize medal "for pharmaceutical extracts, essential oils, and dried herbs of superior quality," but, in addition, the private commendations of some of the leading pharmacists of Europe and America.

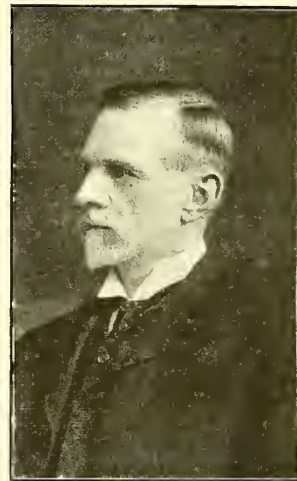
Then follows a description of the fields through which Mr. Quin was taken by Mr. Ransom, fields of lavender, squirting cucumber, aconite, belladonna, and henbane;

the return to "the quaint old town of Hitchin," and a visit to Mr. Ransom's factory and warehouse.

This happened half a century ago, while Mr. Ransom was still on the bright side of forty, and the significant point about it is that he had then acquired a reputation that ranked his business in the series of articles by Tegetmeier and others on "The Chemical Manufactures of Great Britain" with such firms as Colman of Norwich and Davy & McMurdo of London. Mr. Ransom retired from the retail trade in 1866, when he disposed of his pharmacy to a Mr. Flower, who subsequently sold it to Mr. Nicholas Henry Martin, now of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The manufacturing business grew steadily, not only in volume but variety; thus Mr. Ransom was the first to make scammony resin on a commercial scale, and he had to make his own arrangements for the collection of the root in Syria, advancing 1,000*l.* to his agents to pay the peasant-collectors.

In 1885 Mr. Ransom admitted his son, Mr. Francis Ransom, as a partner, and the trade-name became William Ransom & Son.

A few years later the senior partner left the management of the business entirely to his son, and in his retirement has devoted himself to his favourite pursuit—archæology—of which a full account was given in the *C. & D.* nearly twenty years ago (April 8, 1893). Mr. Francis Ransom, after distinguishing himself in the School of Pharmacy, became a pharmaceutical chemist in April 1883, just thirty years after his father. He spent two years with Messrs. Southall



MR. FRANCIS RANSOM.

Bros. & Barclay, of Birmingham, and also worked in the Pharmaceutical Society's research laboratory along with Professor Dunstan on belladonna. He still takes a keen interest in that drug, as his work for the International Congress of Applied Chemistry amply testifies. His long service to the British Pharmaceutical Conference as an honorary Secretary was followed by the presidency in the Cambridge year. He is highly esteemed by all who have been associated with him both in general pharmaceutical work and in business. Mr. Latchmore, who joins the board of directors, has been with the firm for twenty years, latterly acting as manager. Mr. Smith will devote himself chiefly to the commercial side of the business, whose interests will be conserved as a private company, while, we do not doubt, the work done in the past by Messrs. Ransom & Son in the cultivation of important medicinal plants, the manufacture of galenical preparations of these, and their efficient standardisation will be continued.

AMONG the articles exported from Damascus in 1911 were 90 tons of aniseed, valued at 4,500*l.* (to Turkey and Egypt), 1,700 tons of liquorice-root (17,000*l.*) (80 per cent. to U.S.A. and Egypt, 20 per cent. to France and Germany), and 2,400 tons of apricot-kernels, valued at 56,000*l.* (to Germany and other European countries).

COTTON FIBRE.—Referring to the death of Mr. Henry de Mosenthal, F.I.C., F.C.S., "Nature" recalls the fact that in a series of papers to the Society of Chemical Industry he demonstrated that the cuticle of the cotton fibre is extremely porous, that rows of pores and stomata may be observed on the surface under oblique illumination. His experiments also showed that the single cotton fibre exhibited no capillary action, which is contrary to the commonly accepted view, but that several fibres must be in contact before the well-known capillary action became manifest.

TRADE NOTES.

ROYAL WARRANT.—Messrs. Edward Cook & Co., Ltd., soap specialists, Bow, London, E., have received the Royal Warrant of Appointment to his Majesty King George V.

MESSRS. HARRISON & WAIDE, printers, Leeds, will send to any *C. & D.* subscriber on application samples of handbills, circulars, labels, etc., relative to Insurance Act dispensing.

TELEPHONE NUMBER.—Messrs. Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 60 to 64 Artillery Lane, London, E., inform us that the telephone number of their Manchester business has been altered to "6048 City."

INSURANCE APPLIANCES.—If chemists write to Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C., they will get some interesting information regarding the surgical appliances required to be stocked by those on the panels.

THE STANDARD TABLET AND PILL CO., LTD., Hove, are making a special feature of ailment-name remedies, packed ready for retail in attractive form. Their nature, prices, and style are the subject of an advertisement in this issue.

"AFTER SIXTY YEARS."—A New Year's greeting booklet with this title reaches us from Messrs. Gordon & Gotch, Ltd., advertising agents, St. Bride Street, London. Illustrations are given of the company's premises in Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, as well as the London premises.

INSURANCE DISPENSING.—Messrs. Ford, Shapland & Co., printers, 6 Great Turnstile, London, W.C., have completed their arrangements for the prompt supply of labels, account forms, and other printed matter required for Insurance dispensing, and will send specimens to chemists or their committees on postcard application.

DR. ROOKE'S REMEDIES.—Messrs. Butler & Crispe, 32 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C., are to act as sole wholesale distributing agents for the medicinal preparations of Dr. Charles Rooke, Ltd., Scarborough. The various remedies, with their protected retail prices and minimum wholesale prices, are given in an advertisement in this issue.

DIETETIC TEA.—Messrs. Grantham & Co., Blackfriars Road, London, S.E., are expert tea blenders, and have introduced for sale by chemists a choice blend of China and Ceylon teas, with the addition of sun-dried tea grown in Formosa, and the result is a blend which provides an infusion of fine aroma and free from the excess of tannin which is so objectionable in cases of dyspepsia. The tea is put up in $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. and 1-lb. airtight tins to retail at 2s. 6d., and Messrs. Grantham & Co. appoint chemists as agents for it. It is a satisfactory and profitable line for chemists to take up.

WHELPTON'S OINTMENT.—Everyone in the drug-trade knows Whelpton's pills, but we dare say some have not heard of Whelpton's healing ointment. Nevertheless, it has been on the market for sixty years (the pills eighty years), and the demand for it has chiefly been direct. The makers, Messrs. G. Whelpton & Son, Ltd., 4 Crane Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C., have put all their preparations on the P.A.T.A. list, and have discontinued the $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. size of the ointment. The minimum retail price of the 1s. 1d. size is fixed at 1s., this showing 20 per cent. profit on the cost. They hope that chemists will stock the ointment more freely, now that it is to be a feature in the company's advertisements.

IN "EVANS' JOURNAL" for January 1913 the article on the use of tuberculin in private practice is continued and concluded. The other contents include "Vaccine Therapy—in Special Cases"; "New Remedies of 1912"; "Meat (or Potomaine) Poisoning"; "The Cultivation of Drugs," being a report of the evidence before the Dominions Royal Commission; "Suggestions for the Exhibition of Various Medicines"; "Standardisation"; "Laboratory Notes"; and "Reviews of Books." *C. & D.* subscribers who have not received copies of the journal can obtain them on application to Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool. The journal is published quarterly, and reflects what we may call the newer pharmacy.

TALKING-CARDS.—Our subscribers will have noticed the announcement in the Coloured Supplement of Mr. A. W. Bromley, Whetstone, Middlesex. The advertisement refers to a method of increasing the selling power of the window by the use of a new kind of showcard which Mr. Bromley calls "talking-cards." We have seen samples of these window-cards, and find them distinctive and pithily written. Considerable ingenuity has been displayed in drawing up the matter for these cards, and in most cases an appropriate and beautiful illustration is employed to drive home the message and, in conjunction with the headline, to attract the passer-by. Mr. Bromley, from whom full particulars can be obtained, is the author of a book on business buying, which has been referred to in our columns on several occasions.

FICOLAX.—Many of our subscribers have no doubt noticed the prominent advertisements in the leading metropolitan and provincial papers this week about Ficolax, "the ideal fruit laxative," manufactured by The British Drug Houses, Ltd., Graham Street, City Road, London, N. This is part of a large advertising scheme that the manufacturers have inaugurated by the distribution of 25,000 free samples of Ficolax, each of which carries with it a threepenny coupon that will enable the receiver to go to a chemist and get a bottle of Ficolax at 3d. less than the face value, the chemist afterwards having the value of the coupons refunded to him by the proprietors. The co-operation of chemists is invited by The British Drug Houses, Ltd., who in their advertisement in this issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST give full particulars of the scheme.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. J. W. DEAKIN, chemist and druggist, 36 Witton Street, Northwich, has been re-elected President of the local Traders' Association.

MR. W. C. HEBDEN, J.P., chemist and druggist, Halifax, underwent a surgical operation on December 22. He is progressing as well as can be expected.

AMONG New Year's greetings we have received this week is one printed in gold on a neat card from the President (Mr. W. A. Bingham) of the Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association.

MR. HARRY ROBINSON, chemist and druggist, of Browgate, Baildon, Yorks, has been appointed one of the West Riding County Council's representatives on the Baildon Education Committee.

MR. G. CLARIDGE DRUCE, M.A., Ph.C., of Oxford, entertained several committees connected with the South Ward to supper on December 19, to celebrate his twenty-one years' connection with the civic life of the city.

MR. J. GILBERT JACKSON, the Secretary of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, who had his face badly scalded a fortnight ago (*C. & D.*, December 21, 1912, index folio 904), is just getting about again. Fortunately his eyesight is uninjured.

MASTER GEOFFREY MIDDLETON, son of Mr. G. Middleton, chemist and druggist, 80 Woodgrange Road, Forest Gate, London, E., has passed the Senior Oxford Local examination with first-class honours. Master Woodman, who was second in physics, eighth in mathematics, and twelfth in chemistry, also won the prize presented by the Chairman of the Governors of the East Ham Technical College.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY Mr. David Morgan, a native of Llansawel, South Wales, won the bardic chair for the best Welsh poem at a recent Eisteddfod. Mr. Morgan was chaired at Carmarthen in accordance with the old Druidic custom, and the rites and privileges of the bards of Great Britain. Winning a bardic chair is considered a distinction of merit and talent among Welsh people. Besides being a poet Mr. Morgan is also a novelist, being the author of several books, one of which, entitled "A Welsh Doctor," has had a fairly wide circulation in this country and in America. Mr. Morgan is at present a student at the South of England School of Pharmacy, London.

WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

THE House of Commons resumed its sittings on Monday after the Christmas recess.

VETERINARY OPERATIONS (ANÆSTHETICS) BILL.

Among the private members' Bills which have been dropped for the present Session is Mr. Walter Guinness's proposal to make the use of anæsthetics for all veterinary operations compulsory.

PHARMACY INSPECTORS.

On Thursday, January 2, the Chancellor of the Exchequer was asked by Mr. Wheler whether any arrangements have yet been made for the inspection of drugs under the Act, and, if so, how many inspectors have been appointed and at what salaries, and whether those appointed are fully qualified chemists.

EX-GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND TRADING COMPANIES.

The Prime Minister informed Sir Arthur Markham, M.P., in the House of Commons on Wednesday that he sees no reason to interfere with the discretion of ex-Civil servants, unless public interests are adversely affected, as regards their acceptance of salaried offices from trading companies whose trading operations were, while they were still in the Service, worked under regulations drawn up by them.

CELLULOID REGULATIONS.

We understand that besides the City of London (Celluloid Regulations) Bill, which is to be promoted in the next Session of Parliament, the London County Council will seek further powers in regard to the licensing regulation of premises in which cinematograph films, celluloid, and other inflammable substances are manufactured, kept, or otherwise dealt with, or which are employed for the purposes of dangerous businesses.

THE MEDICAL BILL.

Mr. Dundas White, M.P., has given notice of his intention to move, on the second reading of the Medical Bill,

"That this House declines to proceed with further legislation as regards the General Medical Council until measures are taken to place that Council under direct Parliamentary control."

Mr. H. Booth, M.P., will move

"That this House declines to further increase the power of this monopolist and syndicalist body, but calls for legislation to protect deserving doctors and their families from persecution owing to their loyal service to Friendly Societies and to insured persons under the National Insurance Act."

GOLDEN VALLEY OCHRE AND OXIDE CO.

In the House of Commons on Tuesday Mr. Jowett asked the Secretary of the Admiralty whether the Golden Valley Ochre and Oxide Co., of Wick, near Bristol, and the Forest of Dean, are contractors to the Admiralty and other Government departments; whether he is satisfied that this company pays trade-union rates of wages; if so, whether he is aware that 75 per cent. of the company's workmen earn less than 19s. per week for sixty hours' labour; and will he see that the Fair-Wages Resolution is observed.—Dr. Macnamara replied that the answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The fair-wages clause is included in contracts with this firm, and if any detailed complaint is received that the clause is being infringed he would cause full inquiry to be made.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated on Monday that the number of prosecutions for non-payment of contributions under the Act which had been instituted in England, Scotland, and Ireland are forty-five, ten, and sixteen respectively. No prosecutions have yet been instituted in Wales, but proceedings in certain cases may be taken in the immediate future.

Replying on the same day to Mr. Fred Hall, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that each insured person

is entitled to a free choice among the doctors registered on the panel, subject to conditions defined by Section 15 (2) of the Act. If, however, the doctor of his choice declines to go on the panel, the insured person is not entitled to claim as a right that he should be treated by his own practitioner at the expense of the Insurance Fund.—In reply to a further question by Mr. Hall, Mr. Lloyd George said that if any private arrangements were made with doctors outside the panel they must be subject to the allowance of the Insurance Committee and the Insurance Commissioners.

Captain Murray asked: Can the right hon. gentleman now say whether it is practically certain that sufficient doctors will come forward to work the Act?—Mr. Lloyd George: I would rather not express an opinion on that at present.

Earl Winterton: Will the right hon. gentleman make a general statement as to what he proposes to do in the case of counties where the whole of the doctors refuse to serve, as in the case of Sussex?—Mr. Lloyd George: I shall first of all have to wait and see whether there are counties of that kind.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday Sir J. D. Rees, M.P., mentioned a case of a medical practice for which 1,200*l.* was offered before the Act was passed, and which was now unsaleable. He suggested that the Act had brought ruin in many parts of the country, and that medical men should be compensated accordingly.—Mr. Masterman said he had no knowledge of any such cases, and added that the doctors who worked on the panels would find their practice worth very much more as the result of the Act. He did not accept the statement that 42 per cent. of the profession had refused to work the Act, and said that the remaining 58 per cent. would be in excess of the number required for providing medical benefit.

Mr. Masterman stated on Wednesday that the Act does not impose any limit on the amount which may be expended out of contributions in the provision of medical benefit. It is proposed to ask Parliament for a special grant to defray the expenditure which may be incurred by Insurance Committees after the moneys actually available for the present calendar year have become exhausted. The agreements now being entered into with the doctors will in no case run for more than three months, and no public money will be expended without the previous sanction of Parliament.

When the Government business was concluded shortly before eleven o'clock on Wednesday evening, Sir Philip Magnus raised the question as to the free choice of doctor and insured persons making their own arrangements, quoting from the Chancellor of the Exchequer's speeches passages on the subject which he thought were misleading.—In the absence of Mr. Lloyd George, the Attorney-General replied, showing the point which has been overlooked by most people who have dealt with the subject of insured persons making their own arrangements—viz., that they are subject to the approval of the Insurance Committee and in accordance with the regulations.—Mr. Worthington Evans then addressed the House until the proceedings closed automatically, Mr. Masterman repeatedly objecting that Mr. Evans gave him no chance to reply.

GAZETTE.

Partnership Dissolved.

REYNOLDS, B. E., and BOND, C. S., "Chedworth," Orleans Road, Hornsey Rise, and "Highcroft," Shepherd's Hill, Highgate, and also at Finsbury Circus, physicians and surgeons, under the style of Reynolds & Bond.

ARGENTINE CANARY-SEED.—The exports from the Argentine Republic during 1911 amounted to 2,384 tons, against 3,739 tons in 1910, 5,723 tons in 1909, 6,859 tons in 1908, and 22,719 tons in 1907: the total for 1912 (seven months) was 557 tons. The chief destinations in 1911 (tons) were: U.K., 51; U.S.A., 301; France, 290; Belgium, 186; Italy, 166; Brazil, 1,010; and other countries, 375.

BIRTH.

KNIGHT.—At Galen House, Turney Road, Dulwich Village, London, S.E., on December 30, the wife of Wm. A. Knight, Ph.C., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ABERNETHY—FORREST.—At the Imperial Hotel, Aberdeen, on December 23, by the Rev. Richard Goodwillie, Minister of Strichen, James Abernethy, pharmacist (of A. Wander, Ltd.), to Margaret, youngest daughter of Mr. George Forrest, Wardhead, Strichen, Aberdeenshire.

ANGER—HATTERSLEY.—At St. Peter's Mission Church, Heeley, Sheffield, on December 26, Arthur A. Anger, chemist and druggist, of Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, to Helena, daughter of the late Mr. H. Hattersley, Heeley.

BROWN—OLLEY.—At the Chapel-in-the-Field Congregational Church, Norwich, on December 26, Alexander Colin Brown, chemist and druggist, Leiston, Suffolk, to Maude, youngest daughter of Mr. Hales Olley, 43 Clarendon Road, Norwich.

JACKSON—JOHNSON.—At Kirkham Parish Church, Lancs, on December 26, Tom Jackson, chemist, Marsden, Yorkshire, to Kate Johnson, Poulton Street, Kirkham.

VON EICHHORN—BROICHER.—At 136 Tulse Hill, by the Rev. H. Hackmann, on December 28, Margarete (Daisy) Broicher, daughter of Frederick and Paula Broicher (Widenmann, Broicher & Co.), to Dr. Lothar von Eichhorn, eldest son of General von Eichhorn, Saarbrücken.

DEATHS.

ANDERSON.—At 4 Clarence Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, on December 20, Mr. David Scott Anderson, second son of Mr. D. S. Anderson, chemist, Leyland, Lancs, and late of Musselburgh, aged twenty-seven.

BEVAN.—On December 29, at Pembridge Square, Mr. Edward Alston Bevan, aged sixty-five. Mr. Bevan was one of the managing directors of the Produce Brokers Co., Ltd., and his membership at "The Baltic" dated back to 1878.

BOUTLON.—At his residence, Bentley House, Romford Road, Forest Gate, London, E., on December 28, Mr. James Boulton, formerly managing director of James Boulton & Co., Ltd., Crayford Mills, Stratford, E. Mr. Boulton served for a number of years with the firm of Cox & Gould in Chicksand Street, Whitechapel, afterwards joining Messrs. Dunn Bros., of London Wall and Princes Square, Wilson Street, Finsbury, this business eventually being moved to West Ham, where it was joined by the late Dr. Squire. Mr. Boulton had as colleagues Mr. Rushforth of Evans' and Mr. Carter of Maws', and altogether he was connected with the firm for over forty years. He severed his connection on the sale of the business to Mr. Thomas Tyrer on the retirement of Mr. Spencer Dunn. He then established the business of James Boulton & Co., at Station Street, Stratford, afterwards removing to Crayford Mills; this was eventually made into a private limited liability company, of which he remained managing director until his retirement eight years ago. The business is now carried on under the title of Boulton Macro, Ltd. Mr. Boulton's principal work was done in the days when acetate of soda, acetic acid, potassium cyanide, etc., were largely made in the East End of London. He was an enthusiastic Mason, being the founder and P.M. of several Lodges. The interment, which took place at Ilford Cemetery on December 31, was largely attended.

BRIERLEY.—On December 25, Mrs. Brierley, wife of Mr. H. C. Brierley, chemist and druggist, of Middleham, North Yorkshire, and formerly proprietor of the Akroy-

don Pharmacy, Boothtown Road, Halifax, aged thirty-eight.

CRYER.—At Calderbrook, Littleborough, near Rochdale, recently, Mr. Wm. Cryer, head of the firm of Crabtree & Cryer, manufacturing chemists, of Walsden, aged sixty.

DIX.—At 8 High Street, Croydon, on December 27, Mr. Thomas Henry Dix, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-two. Mr. Dix, known among his familiars as "the Doctor," was senior partner in the firm of Dix, Lancaster & Co., chemists, High Street. When he went to Croydon from Norfolk he was partner in the concern of Barritt & Dix, chemists, in another part of Croydon. His tall, upright figure and flowing beard made him a well-known personality in the district. He usually had a choice flower in his buttonhole. Mr. Dix, who was afflicted with heart-trouble, had been confined to his room for the past two months.

MCARTHUR.—At Maplehurst, Sussex, on December 19, very suddenly, Mr. John McArthur, F.R.S.E., late technical manager to Price's, Ltd., and formerly principal assistant to Professor Wm. Dittmar, of Glasgow University, aged fifty-one.

MAIDMENT.—At The Mount, Stanford Road, Faringdon, Berks, recently, Mr. Harold Harding Maidment, chemist and druggist, proprietor of the business of Ballard & Co., Market Place, Faringdon, aged thirty-six. Mr. Maidment was actively connected with several local institutions.

MOORE.—At Queensberry Lodge, Holyrood, Edinburgh, on December 21, Mary Alexander, wife of Mr. Wm. J. Moore, chemist and druggist, Stirling, aged eighty-two.

SPENCE.—At Dunmurry, on December 26, Mr. James Spence, representative in the north of Ireland for Messrs. Cantrell & Cochrane, Belfast, aged thirty-nine.

WYNNE.—At New Street, Mold, on December 21, Mr. Wm. Wynne, father of Mr. W. A. Wynne, pharmaceutical chemist, of Rock Ferry, aged seventy-two.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. BOND SMITH, chemist and druggist, of Potton, is opening a branch at Gamlingay, Sandy, Beds.

MR. J. D. PRATT is fitting up premises in St. John Street, Cambridge, as the International Pharmacy.

MR. J. COOK, chemist and druggist, has bought the business of Mr. Charles F. Smith, chemist and druggist, at 46 St. Stephen's Street, Norwich.

IT IS RUMOURED that in Regent Street, Cambridge, a pharmacy will be opened early in the year under a name possessing local historic interest in pharmacy.

MESSRS. MACLAINE, WATSON & Co., merchants, 14 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., announce that the name of their firm has been changed to MacLaine & Co.

MESSRS. E. D. & F. MAN, produce-brokers, 7 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., have taken Mr. Arthur H. Dix, who has been associated with the firm for many years, into partnership.

MR. R. WHITTLE, pharmacist, has purchased the business of Mr. M. Wolverton, J.P., chemist and druggist, in Market Street, Hednesford, Staffs, where he has been manager for the past fifteen months.

MR. J. J. SPILMAN, chemist and druggist, has sold his branch business at 626 Holderness Road, Hull, to Mr. J. Raymond Foster, pharmacist, brother of Mr. E. Carrick Foster, chemist, Charles Street, Hull.

PERUVIAN COCA-LEAVES.—The exports from Mollendo during 1911 were 150,543 kilos. to the U.S.A. and 17,049 kilos. to France, as compared with 85,055 kilos. and 2,391 kilos. respectively in 1910.

DOMINICAN VANILLA.—A Dominican estate during 1911 planted out 17 acres of vanilla, with every prospect of success, the plants having made a satisfactory growth. If this experiment is successful, it will be taken up by other estates.

POISONING FATALITIES.

ONLY three deaths from the effects of taking poisonous substances have been chronicled since Tuesday night of last week.

"*Gout Tincture*."—At the inquiry held by Dr. Wynn Westcott at Bethnal Green, on December 30, into the death of Harry Hus (46), a sanitary engineer, the widow said her husband suffered from gout. He had told her he had sent for a bottle of "Woodridges' Gout and Rheumatic Tincture." An uncle deposed that Hus had remarked he was purged through taking the stuff. The Coroner: "Taking it in excess. I suppose he thought the more he took the quicker he would be cured." The bottle of tincture, in which about one dose (a teaspoonful) remained, was produced. The Coroner remarked that deceased appeared to have taken about seven doses in the day. The bottle was labelled "Poison," and the ingredients included colchicum, which, in overdose, caused diarrhoea and inflammation of the stomach. Dr. Birdoe said that the intestines were very much inflamed. This condition was set up by an overdose of the medicine and caused death. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure, and the Coroner observed that the man made a mistake in taking all the medicine, instead of according to the stated doses. "He seemed to have had faith in the remedy," added Dr. Westcott.

Salt of Lemon was the suicidal agent used by Ada Turner (18), weaver, Hulme, Manchester.—The death at Dewsbury of Walter Robinson (36), dyer's labourer, was also due to this chemical.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. W. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired, for a list of which, with particulars as to registration, see "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," p. 444.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 25, 1912.)

- "LEHO"; for goods (1). By L. H. Harris, 34 North Side, London, S.W. 346,455.
- "ARTONUM"; for all goods (1). By Dodd & Oulton, Ltd., 8 Stanley Street, Liverpool. 346,805.
- "DOPON"; for chemicals (1). By Jensen & Nicholson, Ltd., Warton Road, Stratford, E. 346,990.
- "TRAGASOL"; for all goods (1). By The Gum Tragasol Supply Co., Ltd., Hooton, Cheshire. 347,030.
- "DURCIL"; for a chemical for hardening moulding materials (1). By Claudius Ash, Sons & Co., Ltd., Broad Street, London, W. 347,104.
- "MEDOL"; for chemicals (2). By Pearson's Antiseptic Co., Ltd., 15 Elm Street, London, W.C. 346,128.
- "SOLKARBOL"; for a chemical (2). By T. Taylor, 86 Ley Lane, Armley, Leeds. 346,975.
- "MANURITO"; for all goods (2). By Anglo-Continental Fertilisers Syndicate, Ltd., 1 Broad Street Place, London, E.C. 347,069.
- "EXIT"; for chemicals (2). By Palmer & Co., Ltd., Warton Road, Stratford, E. 347,377.
- "ALKAGEN"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., Plough Court, London, E.C. 347,033.
- "DELICOL"; for a medicine (3). By C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., Charlotte Street, London, E.C. 347,394.
- "SOMEDO"; for pharmaceutical goods (3). By H. Schmidt, 59 Rue Thiers, Saint-Dié, France. 347,406.
- "PULPATIN"; for all goods (3). By The Dental Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Newman Street, London, W. 347,468.
- "TRAGACINE"; for goods (4). By The Yorkshire Dyeware and Chemical Co., Ltd., 27 Kirkstall Road, Leeds. 346,949.
- "PLIAWEB"; for horse-bandages (11). By A. E. H. Cumberland and C. J. Weston, 30 Beverley Road, Anerley, S.E. 346,481.
- Label device (boy with dumb-bell and words "STRENGTH AND PURITY" [disclaimed] on scroll); for goods (42). By R. Dickson & Co., Ltd., 136 Tooley Street, London, S.E. 346,132.
- "PATTINI"; for confectionery (42). By Lorimer-Marshall, Ltd., Colebrooke Row, London, N. 346,560.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., January 2.

BUSINESS since our last has been practically at a standstill, owing to the intervening holidays and stocktaking operations, and not until next week, when the drug-auctions take place, will there be any expansion of buying. Meanwhile, price alterations are confined to a few articles, including the anticipated advance in *san-tonin* of 4s. 3d. per lb. upwards. Quinine is firmer, a fair quantity of quiet speculative buying having taken place at a slight advance, probably in anticipation of the agreement between the Java planters and the quinine-makers being signed. Quicksilver was officially advanced 1s. 6d. after 'Change hour to-day. Lemon oil is excessively scarce on spot, pure quality being almost absent. Clove and sandalwood oils are still tending upwards. Glucose and turpentine are lower.

Cablegrams.

NEW YORK, December 25.—Business in drugs is quiet. Opium is 10c. per lb. lower at \$6.60 for druggists' by single cases. Peppermint oil is dull at \$2.75. Copaiba is lower at 45c. per lb. for Central and South American, and Peru balsam is easier at \$1.75. Bromides have been advanced, including potassium by 4c. per lb. Menthol is unsettled at \$12 per lb.

NEW YORK, January 2.—Business in drugs is quiet. Opium is steady at \$6.60 per lb. for druggists' in single cases. Java quinine has advanced to 19½c. per oz. Mercurials are lower by 3c. per lb. Menthol is a declining market at \$11 per lb. Peppermint oil is dull at \$2.75 in tins. Hydrastis (golden seal) is lower at \$3.75. Curaçao aloes is also lower at 9c. per lb. Ipecacuanha is quoted at \$2.10 per lb. for either Rio or Cartagena, being easier. Cascara sagrada is quoted 7½c.

London Markets.

ALCOHOL.—A telegram has been received announcing an advance equal to ¾d. per proof gal. in German potato-spirit, the quotations now being from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2½d. per proof gal. in bond, according to quality.

ALOES.—A parcel of about 40 kegs Socotrine is close at hand; also a small lot of Zanzibar in monkey-skins.

ANISE OIL (STAR).—Retail sales have been made at 7s. on spot for "Red Ship" brand, and for a small parcel close at hand 6s. 5d. c.i.f. is quoted.

BALSAM CANADA.—A New York advice reports great scarcity, there being practically none available at primary sources; \$6.50 per gal. in barrels is quoted in that city.

BENZOLIN.—The arrivals in the warehouse comprise about 70 cases Sumatra and 30 Palembang in blocks. Ten cases Siam are advertised for sale next week.

BROMIDES.—Owing to the increased cost of manufacture American makers have advanced the price of potassium bromide by 4c. to 39c. to 40c. per lb. (1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.); ammonium and sodium are 6c. per lb. dearer. Bromine was also advanced 5c. The English makers' price is unchanged at 1s. 6½d. net for 1-cwt. lots, no contracts being undertaken.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Our Bombay correspondent is informed by the Assistant Collector of Excise that neither has the export of cannabis indica been prohibited nor the

Excise-duty on it raised by Government. This official statement disposes of the recent rumours current on the London and American markets.

CARDAMOMS.—The "Ceylon Observer" states that cardamoms are fetching good prices on the Colombo market, the cause for the sudden rise being inexplicable.

CINCHONA.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on January 23 will consist of 14,649 packages Ledgeriana and hybrid, 370 cases and 740 bales Succirubra, making a total of 15,759 packages; 2,495 packages coca-leaves will also be offered. The first-hand stock of bark at Amsterdam on December 31 consisted of 9,541 packages Government, and 43,370 packages private bark, or 52,911 packages in all, including the first-hand parcels to be offered at auction.

CLOVE OIL has advanced a further 1d. per lb., the English distillers' price being 5s. 9d., and six W. qts. 5s. 8d. per lb.

CLOVES are dearer at from 9½d. to 10d. on spot for Zanzibar; to arrive January-March has been sold at 9½d., now buyers at 9½d. c.i.f.; for delivery, buyers at 9½d. for January-March and 10½d. paid for March-May.

COCAINE is firm in consequence of the recent higher rates paid for crude. Makers quote from 7s. 9d. to 8s. 1d., the lower price being for 175-oz. contracts.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on December 30 that the quotation is unchanged at 64s. per barrel c.i.f., which is nominal in the absence of business. In London, agents quote from 66s. to 67s. c.i.f.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—The *Peleus*, from Penang, has brought 15 cases.

ERGOT is inquired for. Recent sales include Russian on spot up to 4s. 6d., and Spanish up to 6s. 3d. per lb.

EUCALYPTUS OIL.—The *Miniro* has brought a total of 182 cases from Melbourne.

GAMBOGE.—Seven cases have arrived, per *Peleus*, from Singapore.

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 1912, the United States imported 3,500 lb. gamboge direct from Bangkok, as compared with 1,405 lb. during 1911. The total of gamboge exports from Bangkok during 1911-12 was valued at 3,580%, against 3,360% in 1910-11.

GLUCOSE is lower at from 10s. 10½d. to 11s. 3d. per cwt. ex works London, according to brand.

GUINEA GRAINS.—The higher price of 87s. per cwt. c.i.f. is quoted for shipment from Hamburg.

HOREHOUND-HERB is very dear, the value being about twice the normal; 26s. c.i.f. is asked by one shipper.

IPECACUANHA.—The *Amazon* has brought five packages Matto Grosso from Monte Video and twelve packages Minas from Bahia; the *Araguaya* from Bahia has brought five packages Minas.

LEMON OIL is again dearer, and so scarce is pure quality that from 10s. to 10s. 6d. has been paid for small parcels on the spot; for oil about landing 9s. 3d. is wanted. No maker will quote terpeneless oil under 70s. for January shipment, and 80s. has been paid for this oil on the spot.

Authentic samples of the new-crop pressings, which have been pressed under our correspondent's personal observation, show a particularly low specific gravity, two samples giving the figures 0.8557 and 0.8548 respectively. These values are much below those of average pressings.

A Palermo advice dated December 21 states that the general position remains as previously described. There is still a strong feeling, principally due to the scarcity of available supplies of new-crop oil and to the impossibility of finding sellers either for prompt or forward delivery. Some dealers who were in urgent need of prompt deliveries of new crop have pushed prices to a much higher level than those last quoted, but without result, as sellers hold back. The pressings are rather behind-hand, and at the moment this creates a lack of goods to fulfil the heavy deliveries which have to be made during this month against contracts made for forward monthly deliveries from December onwards. The position is therefore very stiff, and it would be a reasonable policy also for foreign consumers not to force events by a demand for prompt or near delivery (which it is absolutely impossible to meet), and to maintain a waiting attitude until the pressing season is in full swing and the general position of the market becomes clearer. Prices are practically nominal, as no transactions have been effected during this week also. When the Decem-

ber deliveries have been effected, it is to be hoped the position will again permit of business in the usual manner.

MENTHOL.—The nominal price on the spot is about 31s. per lb. for cases and 32s. for tins, but business is at a standstill. The *Nyanza* via Marseilles has brought 20 cases in *tr.*

The exports of menthol from Japan during October amounted to 15,429 kin, valued at 223,302 yen. During the ten months the exports have been as follows:

	1910	1911	1912
Yen ...	95,195	85,525	100,540
Kin ...	507,387	672,188	1,154,382

The exports of *Peppermint oil* from Japan during October were 21,144 kin, valued at 81,171 yen. During the ten months the exports have been as follows:

	1910	1911	1912
Yen ...	120,070	126,782	135,808
Kin ...	376,684	438,782	488,064

OPIMUM.—This market has not yet opened since the holidays, and there is an absence of news and cables from primary markets. The last quotation (not an offer) was 18s. 6d. c.i.f. for 11 per cent. druggists', and on the spot the value of this test is about 21s. per lb.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on December 20 that the opium market has been fairly active again this week, with sales amounting to seven cases common qualities at 17s. to 18s., four cases selected Karahissar at 19s. to 20s., and ten cases fine-looking slightly at 19s. 2d. (10½ per cent.), probably for the Far Eastern markets. Sellers continue to maintain a firm position, and will very likely do so as long as the winter lasts, and there is no more fear of damages to the poppy by frost. The arrivals in Smyrna are 2,123 cases, against 1,046 at same date last year.

A Constantinople correspondent writes on December 21 that the sales of the week amount to 44 cases current druggists' at from 260 to 282 ptrs., according to quality, 12 cases "soft" shipping at 308 ptrs., and two cases Malatia at 295 ptrs. per oke; market is quiet and unsettled. The arrivals in Constantinople amount to 2,220 cases, against 1,236 cases; these comprise 1,177 druggists', 717 cases "soft," and 326 cases Malatia, against 811, 367, and 58 cases respectively. The stock in Constantinople amounted to 955 cases, against 387 cases, and comprised 532 druggists', 293 "soft," and 130 Malatia, against 231, 106, and 50 cases respectively. Writing again on December 28, the same correspondent writes that the sales for the week amounted to fourteen cases druggists' at from 278 to 280 ptrs. and 10 cases "soft" at from 290 to 330 ptrs. per oke; market is quiet and unsettled. Some do not wish to sell, believing there is still a great risk in regard to the next crop, while others are eager buyers. One cannot, therefore, establish a basis price on to-day's markets.

ORANGE OIL.—A Palermo advice dated December 21 states that the market is taking a more normal course. Many transactions have been closed during the week at the actual prices previously quoted, and there is no difficulty in finding sellers without exciting the market. In regard to Jamaica orange oil it is stated in London that, owing to a hurricane in the West Indies, it is difficult to get offers; 8s. 6d. has been paid, but more is now asked.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—Japanese continues scarce on spot, with 7s. 2d. asked in one quarter for Kobayashi.

POTASSIUM IODIDE.—The exports from Japan during October amounted to 3,441 kin, valued at 19,083 yen. During the ten months exports have been:

	1910	1911	1912
Kin ...	44,925	42,853	47,309
Yen ...	203,076	196,216	218,923

The exports of *Crude Iodine* during October were 1,160 kin, valued at 5,839 yen, and during the ten months exports were: 1910, 9,093 kin; 1911, 11,390 kin; and 1912, 12,037 kin.

QUICKSILVER, after 'Change hour to-day (Thursday), was advanced by the principal importers 1s. 6d. per bottle to 7l. 10s., second-hands quoting 7l. 7s.

QUININE is firmer on account of the fact that an option involving a fair quantity has been declared. Business has been done from second-hands at 9d. per oz. for German sulphate, but 9½d. is now asked.

The exports of "quinine, quinine salts, and combinations" from Germany during the ten months ended October were as follows:

	1910	1911	1912
Kilos. ...	155,400	175,000	177,500
Marks ...	3,615,000	4,242,000	4,529,000

At the auction held at Amsterdam on December 27, 1,417½ kilos. (50,000 oz.) Ed. II. were offered and sold at an average price of fl.14.44½ per kilo., against fl.14.25 per kilo. at the previous auction. The next auction will be held on January 17, when a similar quantity will be offered.

RHUBARB.—The *Peleus* has brought 76 cases from Shanghai, also 436 bags in *tr.*

SACCHARIN.—As the contracts made with the Saccharin Corporation expired at the end of the year, it is intimated that they can be renewed at the same prices and terms as before. The quotation for the three higher strengths, 550, 500, and 450, is 25s. per lb. net.

SANDALWOOD OIL.—The January list price of one of the English distillers shows an advance to 23s. per lb.

SANTONIN.—The advance which we foreshadowed in our issue of December 7 took place on Saturday, December 28, when the monopoly raised the basis price, which is now 1-cwt. lots (instead of 2-cwt.), by 4s. 3d. per lb. to 97s. 6d.; 56-lb. lots are quoted 100s. 6d.; 28-lb., 102s. 9d.; 14-lb., 105s. 3d.; and small lots, 107s. 6d. per lb., all net.

SARSAPARILLA.—Recent arrivals in the warehouse include 4 bales grey Jamaica, 10 of native red Jamaica, 2 Lima, and 25 bales Mexican; 13 bales grey Jamaica are also close at hand.

TURPENTINE closes lower at 31s. 3d. per cwt. spot for American.

Manchester Chemical-market.

December 31.

During the past fortnight business in all classes of chemicals has been almost at a standstill. Buyers have only supplied pressing requirements, and as usual at this period of the year the market has been of a holiday character. No doubt, when the accounts are made up for the past twelve months it will be found that business has been fairly remunerative. The number of works registered under the Alkali Act continues to increase, and in sulphate of ammonia and similar fertilisers the output has been larger. Exports show steady progress, and, although quantities have fallen somewhat, values show a fair increase; f.o.b. prices at Liverpool, however, do not show much change as compared with January, and since then there has been a steady upward tendency. The outbreak of war in the Near East did not have the effect anticipated in connection with exports of certain cotton goods, and towards the close of the year, with a complete resumption of business in Lancashire, there was considerable business reported in heavy alkalis. This was particularly marked in contracts for the ensuing twelve months, and, although caustic soda is virtually unchanged through the period named, white powdered arsenic has had a remarkable development, commencing at 11l. and 12l. per ton, and closing strong at 25l. to 26l. per ton, best white powdered. Glycerin has been fairly steady throughout year, and, although the existence of the Combine was at one time threatened, the ranks of the makers closed up. C.p. is about 5l. per ton lower as compared with last year. Owing to the appreciation in the raw metal, sulphate of copper shows an increase in value of nearly 30s. per ton. Yellow prussiate of potash closed about 2d. per lb. dearer, but this was for prompt delivery, and forward contracts are being made at much lower prices. A reduction is shown of 5d. to 8d. per gal. in crude carbolic, while carbolic crystals have declined about 2d. to 2½d. Benzols are 1d. to 2d. per gal. lower.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

AMYL PREPS.—The price of crude fusel oil has been advanced, so that makers of preparations follow by m.20 per 100 kilos.; technically pure amyl acetate costs m.330, and chemically pure m.350; *amyl alcohol*, 128° to 132°, is m.370; 130° to 132°, m.390 per 100 kilos. The increase was not expected, and it is doubtful if it will be of long duration.

ARSENIC.—It appears that as a consequence of the rapid advance by makers, second-hand holders had matters much their own way, and consequently the makers lowered their prices; from m.46 to m.48 per 100 kilos. is now quoted for white powdered, and large stocks are said to exist in second-hands.

BALSAM PERU has shown more demand and a firmer tone on the Hamburg market during the past few days. Holders have, therefore, been able to obtain a slight increase in price. Various qualities are on the market, so that a general increase has not been possible.

CASSIA FISTULA.—A good business is reported from Hamburg in the new crop at from m.34 to m.35 per 100 kilos.; offers have been lacking during the past few days, the probability being that the crop is over.

DEXTRIN.—The demand for all potato-products is very slack at the moment, and consequently the factories have acquired stocks; the price of dextrin declined by about m.½ per 100 kilos.

ERGOT is firm, and in Hamburg the prices asked have been paid, including Russian at m.8.25 and German at m.8 per kilo. net at warehouse; for delivery the cheaper prices of m.8 is quoted for Russian and m.7.75 for German.

KOLA.—An improved business has been done in Hamburg at lower prices, and from first-hands good quarters and also halves have been sold at m.100 per 100 kilos.

Next Week's Drug-auctions.

The first auction of the year will be held next week, and will consist of first- and second-hand drugs. The bulky goods, as usual, will be on show at the Crutched Friars Warehouse on Wednesday, January 8, the arrangements at the Cutler Street Warehouse not yet being complete. The removal of the drugs, however, is making satisfactory progress, and it is practically certain that the "view day" for the auction of January 23 will be at Cutler Street. The new venue is about five minutes' walk from Mincing Lane, the most direct route being through Billiter Street, Creechchurch Lane, Duke Street, and Houndsditch. To those approaching from the west, the nearest entrance is by New Street, Bishopsgate, close to Liverpool Street Station.

Mysore Sandalwood Auctions.

How valuable the sandalwood monopoly is to the Government of Mysore may be gathered from the following figures. The quantity advertised for sale in 1912 was 2,348 tons, or about 143 tons more than in the previous year. The whole of this quantity was sold, realising Rs. 12,54,155, or Rs. 2,18,742 more than in the previous year. The average rate per ton realised during the year was Rs. 534, against Rs. 471 in the previous year, and Rs. 455, the average for the ten years preceding 1910.

"Lycopodium Substitute."

Messrs. Smith, Kline & French Co., writing to the "Oil, Paint, and Drug Reporter" of December 23, record examining two samples of "lycopodium" apparently composed of coloured starch. They state that the starch grains on treating with dilute acids turn pink, indicating the presence of methyl orange. Both samples were lighter and more yellow in appearance than genuine lycopodium. The microscopical characters of the grains showed that one sample consisted of maize-starch and the other of potato-starch, no spores of lycopodium being present.

Argentine Linseed Cultivation.

Argentina occupies the first place in the world's production of linseed, and could, it is authoritatively affirmed, alone meet the universal consumption. In fact, the exports of that cereal in 1908 are represented as having furnished three-fourths of the world's demand in that year. The area sown in 1911-12 has exceeded that of 1907-8 by 1,636,700 acres. The exports (tons) from 1907 to 1911 were as follows: 1907, 773,905; 1908, 1,064,605; 1909, 918,413; 1910, 654,299; 1911, 442,982; 1912 (seven months), 355,496. The destinations (tons) in 1911 were as follows: United Kingdom, 43,736; U.S.A., 84,902; France, 26,113; Germany, 100,210; Belgium, 76,674; Italy, 5,679; other countries, 73,340.

Java Cinchona.

"Prcanger Bode," summarising the present position of the negotiations between the Syndicate of quinine-makers and the cinchona-planters, states that the former have agreed to consent to the erection of a Government quinine-factory in Java, provided all the cinchona-planters sign the proposed contract with the Syndicate. The planters, on the other hand, are not disposed to make any change in the proposals drawn up at their meeting held some months ago, and at a meeting which took place on November 20 last they empowered Herr Lovink to send a cablegram to the Syndicate, asking the latter to state definitely whether or not they accept the planters' proposals. If the answer is in the negative, the planters will build at least two factories. The Government has definitely decided to build a factory, which will prepare quinine for use only in the Dutch East Indies.

Drugs and Chemicals in 1912.

Mr. John C. Umney, F.C.S., in the course of an interesting summary of the principal movements among drugs, chemicals and essential oils, published in the "London Chamber of Commerce Journal," states that the general decline in values which he forecasted at the end of 1911 has not been fulfilled; indeed, in the majority of cases, prices are even higher than they were then. This applies in a marked degree to essential oils. Decreased production of English lavender oil has led to much higher rates, while for English

peppermint oil prices are a trifle easier, due rather to diminished demand and improvement in other sources of supply. Lemon and bergamot oils have been much influenced by speculation, and close at very abnormal rates. Star-anise oil has advanced considerably, and has been the subject of much sophistication. Cassia oil, on the other hand, has remained practically uniform, with a decreasing demand. The conclusion of the year marks a phenomenal rise in the price of santal oil, top value possibly not having been reached.

The Opium Traffic.

It is understood (says a Reuter's telegram from Peking) that Great Britain contemplates terminating the Opium Agreement of 1911, in accordance with Article 7, unless a more hopeful outlook speedily arises calculated to improve the position of importers and to relieve tension between British residents and the Chinese public. The Portuguese and Chinese are taking more active measures to suppress the contraband opium trade through Macao. It may be recalled that the Opium Agreement of May 9, 1911, was supplementary to that of 1907, by which Great Britain agreed to reduce the standard amount of 51,000 chests of opium annually imported into China by 5,100 chests yearly, so as to terminate the import in ten years. By the supplementary agreement last year Great Britain undertook to terminate the import of opium in less than seven years (which remained under the old agreement) if China ceased the cultivation of the poppy before that time.

Cuban Honey.

The production of honey in Western Cuba has been an established industry for many years, and is now carried on with more or less vigour under modern conditions. The bee, which thrives in Cuba by reason of climate and the abundance of the practically perennial flora, has been developed into a comparatively good stock, the native bees having been supplanted somewhat by the southern European and American-bred varieties. According to the United States Consul in Havana, this improvement of bee-stock has not been entirely the result of effort in recent years, as the Cubans for generations have imported bees. However, before the advent of the American, bee-keeping in Cuba was in a decidedly primitive state, the hives being makeshift affairs, and very often royal palm trunks. As the great majority of the honey was sold in strained bulk, and the wax melted down, these crude hives served the purpose in most cases. When the American and other foreign settlers began to come to Cuba, and some of these perceived the opportunity in bee-keeping, modern appliances began to appear, and now the use of the modern hive is well established with both natives and foreigners. There has also ensued better management of apiaries, and as a result there has been an expansion of colonies and a greater production of good honey. Therefore the apiary in Cuba which in the present day has any pretensions towards size and good conditions, may have 100 to 500 colonies all housed in good hives, and producing in a season as much as 200 lb. per colony. For strained honey the average price in the Havana market is from 1s. 8d. to 2s. per gal., and the wax from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. These prices are a substantial advance on those of two years ago, and therefore have somewhat stimulated the industry. The exportation of honey and beeswax from Cuba now constitutes an important financial item. According to the official statistics for the year 1909, the honey exports amounted to 9,726,663 lb., of which the United States is said to have taken 4,140,077 lb. and Germany 2,773,863 lb. According to the same statistics, the exports of beeswax amounted to 1,623,353 lb., of which the United States is said to have taken 697,577 lb. and Germany 787,788 lb. Of the total exportation of honey and beeswax the port of Havana has about 75 per cent., this being due largely to the fact that Havana merchants buy the bulk of the production for exportation.

Heavy Chemicals in 1912.

THE fact which stands out most prominently when reviewing the heavy-chemical trade during 1912 is the large volume of business which has been transacted in spite of a succession of various periods of most adverse conditions. Manufacturers must certainly have had a most anxious time, and one cannot but admire the splendid way in which they have coped with many difficulties. At the commencement of the year we pointed out that the prospects for the trade were bright and encouraging if only labour troubles did not intervene. At that time there was a lock-out in the cotton trade, which, fortunately, was

quickly settled. Very soon afterwards, however, the great coal strike came, which ultimately caused many manufacturers to close down; but even during the period preparatory to actual working out of stocks, additional difficulties were caused by the railway companies being unable to guarantee through delivery of traffic. During this period manufacturers attended to works repairs as much as possible, and were busy booking orders for delivery earliest possible after resumption. The London dock strike in June, as well as the strike in the salt-works of South Durham and the railway strike on the North-east coast, all during the later months of the year, must also be mentioned as adverse influences upon the chemical trade. Higher costs of manufacture due to higher prices for fuel, higher wages, etc., have also had to be contended with. In spite of all these drawbacks, however, the total volume of trade done has been very heavy, particularly during the last six months of the year, and not only have contracts been well taken up, but orders on miscellaneous account have been very satisfactory, and a general activity in both the home and export branches of the trade has been experienced. The tendency of manufacturers to deal direct with actual consumers is probably on the increase, and understandings between manufacturers as regards their spheres of influence have been well maintained.

In view of what we have said above, it is not surprising that appreciable advances in values have to be recorded in some departments, though it may be mentioned that those which are really due to higher costs of manufacture have not been unduly heavy. Those more particularly caused by heavy demand and consequent scarcity have been more important. As regards those products classed under "Alkali Produce," the first item of interest was in connection with 58 per cent. ammonia alkali, due to the announcement early in February of a substantial reduction in price to come into operation from July 1. It was at first suggested that the reduction would amount to about 20s. per ton, and approximately this turned out to be correct, and a fair number of consumers availed themselves of the option given them of extending their contracts for an appreciable period ahead. Bleaching-powder, in spite of decreased exports, more particularly to the United States of America, has been in strong demand all through, and at various periods very scarce. Prices secured for 1913 have been appreciably better than for last year, and in many cases average 20s. per ton more. Caustic soda has been in good request, and on the whole steady, though competition has been somewhat keener. Silicates have advanced slightly, and yellow prussiates of potash and soda very materially so. Chlorates and bichromates have ruled steady at unaltered rates. Crystal alum and alumina-products are generally higher, and makers have been well supplied with orders throughout the year. Barium compounds have met with a ready demand, but prices for the greater part of the year have been comparatively low. Higher prices are asked for this year, but the full effect of this will scarcely be felt during the early months, as it seems probable there are fair stocks unsold on last year's contracts. White powdered arsenic has had an extraordinary advance—viz., from about 10l. 10s. to 25l., though at the moment it is somewhat easier. Lead-products have been affected considerably by fluctuations in the metal, and closing prices are considerably dearer, especially in the case of white lead. Benzols have sold well, and in spite of considerable increase of production have maintained their price. Sulphate of ammonia closes the year a firm market, with values showing a slight decline. Quantities exported during the eleven months to the end of November are somewhat lower than 1911, but the value has been higher, thus showing a better average price, so that, although there has been an increased production, particularly by coke-works, supplies have been well taken up. The outlook for the chemical trade at the present time is distinctly good, as consuming-trades are well employed and demand for export is active. It is to be hoped that labour conditions do not cause the same trouble during 1913 as during 1912, and in this case we have no hesitation in prophesying another satisfactory year.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest.

Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Insurance Act Dispensing.

SIR,—From all quarters I hear that the chemists "have been taken in and done for." Your readers cannot fail to notice that not a single member of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee or of the Pharmaceutical Society has the courage to come forward with arguments in defence of their policy, or to say whether the injustices of the Act have been presented to the Insurance Commissioners. It is noticeable that some of those who enticed chemists into submission are now working up the medical wobblers, some of whom will, no doubt, receive rewards for obedience. Judging from the last edition of a contemporary organ, no one would believe that the trade is passing through a crisis. One would think the chemists had all been offered salaries from 1,000*l.* to 350*l.* downwards, like other officials who are appointed to "work the Act." With the cards entirely in their own hands, has it ever struck the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee that there is no great achievement in obtaining the "principle" of dispensing for the "tuppenny fee"? While the right of dispensing profitable prescriptions still remains the privilege of the doctor, there would have been room for congratulation if it had been decided that the chemist is the only qualified dispenser. Again, have the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee made it clear to the Insurance Commissioners that dispensing at 2*s.* by the doctor, where he may order anything or nothing, is widely different from supplying all that may be ordered when the chemist pays for it? That the chemist is supposed to keep in stock all the scheduled drugs and appliances, while the doctor will not keep one-tenth of the articles in stock? Under such circumstances the chemist is justly entitled to a larger sum for medicines and appliances, whether it comes out of the lump sum of 8*s.* 6*d.* or by an extra grant. Remember the doctor gets 19*s.* per day per 1,000 for services only; the chemist gets 4*s.* per day for work and material. The question whether we are to be paid for extras over the 2*s.* capita basis still remains unanswered. What are "reasonable hours"? Not yet defined. Surely it does not mean that in addition to financial risk the chemists will agree to dispense after business hours or on State half-holidays? If the chemists agree to three months' trial with all the preliminary organisation upset and extra labour, the Government cannot expect them to run financial risks as well. I am not certain that the Commissioners will accept chemists on the panel on condition that they will be paid in full for all goods supplied, but I think every signature should be under protest. To what abject submission are the chemists reduced by secret negotiation! "Per capita" was said to be "gamble," but the croupier pays up at the end of the deal. "Per tariff" may prove a delusion and a snare.

Heresford.

Yours truly,
J. J. JACKSON, Ph.C.

Mr. C. J. Willis (Easton), replying to remarks by "Xrayser II.," says Regulation 43, Clause 2, shows that it seems quite likely that chemists will not get all that they charge for in their bills—*e.g.*, if one amounts to, say, 40*l.*, and there is only 30*l.* to pay it, then 30*l.* is all that will be paid. That seems to Mr. Willis to be very bad business. He emphasises it thus:

We are told we must take it or leave it, and "Xrayser II." says we can win no more. Why not? The doctors haven't adopted the Act because they must, they are emphatically

"leaving," and not "taking," it. Again, "Xrayser II." vaguely suggests the possibility of having to face cutting stores of Co-operative dispensaries. Well, what of them? Where is there a town or even village of any size which has not one or other of these already? Will they inflict a greater loss than this Act, which robs, or can legally do, by only paying part of its debts? It will take more than "Xrayser II.'s" eloquence and easy off-hand remarks and advice to induce me to touch the Act. . . . I have been advised to try it for three months, and then see, as it may be fought in Parliament. What is the use of that? When Mr. Lloyd George has once got us in his hands, we may struggle as much as we like; promises will be ignored, as in the past in other matters, and we shall be calmly told to make the best of it, as no more money is available, that we went on the panels with our eyes open, and so on. Then I have been assured that there is practically no fear of a shortage in payments, and that plenty of money will be available for all accounts to be paid in full. Very comforting, so far as it goes, but—

Illness under the Shops Act.

SIR,—I note with some surprise that the Liverpool Stipendiary Magistrate has cautioned a druggist for selling embrocation and tincture of iodine on the early-closing day. There is nothing at all in the Shops Act, 1912, about illness, or of goods supposed to be required in case of illness. The Schedule states that shops may be kept open for the sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances. I have searched in vain for any section in which it is stated that the medicines sold on the early-closing day must be taken on that day, or that embrocation purchased on the early day must be used on that day. If such a decision were allowed to stand, the value of the exemption would be entirely lost, and no business person would open his shop for the purpose of supplying medicines for immediate consumption only. The point is that the Shops Act does not mention the word "illness," nor does it imply that a trader must of necessity question his customer as to what the latter intends to do with the goods he has purchased. I will appreciate a reference to this question in your next issue.

Yours faithfully,

G. E. OLIVER.

December 27, 1912.

[Liverpool chemists applied to the local authority for an order under Section 4 (6) applying the section to their shops. An order was accordingly made and approved by the Home Secretary to this effect. Consequently the Magistrate was compelled to apply the terms of the section, and Sub-section 7 exonerates only when there is reasonable ground for believing that the article supplied to the customer during closing hours is required in the case of illness. We may recall the fact that the provisions of Section 10 ought to be taken into account when a closing order is made in respect to shops in which any exempted business is carried on along with non-exempted businesses. This appears not to have been done in the case of Liverpool, with the result that the terms and conditions upon which the exempted business may be carried on during closing hours are not stated in the order. It would be an advantage to all chemists and others engaged in the retail drug-trade if a conviction could be obtained in Liverpool, after full argument of the facts, and a case stated for the High Court's decision (1) on the legality of the closing order; and (2) its application to the sale of the exempted articles.—EDITOR, C. & D.]

What's Wrong with Pharmacy?

SIR,—It strikes me that this is a much more important question than the average pharmacist is apt to imagine. Is there anything wrong? I say most unhesitatingly, Yes. If one could but go into the takings and profits of the average pharmacist one would find that they are in no way commensurate with the time, labour, and expense incurred in qualifying. Why? My answer is, the invasion! The invasion of the patent-medicine man. Time was (and I remember it) when the chemist put up proprietaries because he knew from experience that they were really good remedies, and would do what was claimed for them; he did a good business in them, with profit both to himself and the public at large. Although the chemist of to-day does the same, he is very heavily handicapped by reason of the immense sums put aside by patent proprietors for the advertisement of their wares, which the individual chemist is quite unable to do, with the result that he finds his preparations ousted because he cannot

advertise them largely; and as they are on show in one pharmacy only, they never have an earthly chance to keep up their sale. He sells those that are largely advertised for a mere pittance, which does not pay for running the show, much less putting any money into his pocket. With the advent of the modern class, those that are advertised so as to make the public believe that the article is one in every-day demand, the chemist's position has become infinitely worse. I say, Sir, let us sell those preparations in which we have a direct interest, and on which we get a reasonable profit. Many chemists in the past have driven customers to the stores because they were too grasping. I would appeal to every chemist to determine from to-day to follow out the course I have indicated. Some will argue that the trade will go to the drug-shops or oil-dealers. Then by all means let it go there; the things are no use to us, and the sooner we realise that the better. Trades-unionism and co-operation are found in all ranks but the chemist's. Why should we ignore these great aids to successful business, with the result that we are at everybody's mercy, and can be squeezed just as it seems fit to these jerrymandering gentlemen to squeeze us? Is there any other direction in which the pharmacist lacks? I think so, and that is that he is not ready enough to go in for side-lines. It behoves us to recognise that we are business men, and as such should not despise anything which brings grist to the mill. It is the favoured few who now make a living by pure pharmacy alone, but, unfortunately, it is that favoured few who have had the conduct of affairs at Bloomsbury Square, with the result that their doings have often shown a lack of appreciation of the wants of the rank and file. It is, however, for us to work out our own salvation, and this we can do if we are but in earnest and are united.

Yours faithfully,

C. C. H. CADGE.

Bingham.

SIR,—“What's wrong with pharmacy?” It appears to me that it is not pharmacy so much as the pharmacist who is wrong. I admit that things are unsatisfactory; then why not stop talking and grumbling and set to work to put them right? It *can* be done. Difficult? Yes, I know it is; but what is the use of being a man if one sticks at difficulties? And, after all, what are the difficulties when compared with the benefits of combination? Here are a few of the things we could do:

Fix our hours of business.

Dictate our terms to patent-medicine makers and others.

Decline to sell patents in pennyworths.

These three alone are worth fighting for. Can we not sink all these petty jealousies and stand shoulder to shoulder for once? It is our only chance. If we don't, sooner or later we must go under. While we are about it, why not interest the assistants and get them to fight on our side? What we need most is a strong leader; will he come forward?—Yours faithfully,

CO-SECANT. (176/42.)

Mr. C. E. Bell (Stapleford) suggests that “Ucal exactly meets the case” presented by Jay Mack.

Emcee (174/1) does not think it will be in the least profitable to follow Jay Mack's advice, and concludes a somewhat sarcastic letter by saying—

I put up all my own specialities, have my own labels, cartons, etc., and my profit is not 100 but nearer 300 per cent. Ucal, Rexall, and Nyal are the crutches necessary for the Jay Mack type, but for the real, live, up-to-date pharmacist Individuality and Personality are the watch-words and trade-marks.

Vim (25/90), in the course of a letter on this subject (written on both sides of the paper, unfortunately), says:

Glyn-Jones is a pioneer we all ought to be proud of. I have not the pleasure of his acquaintance, but how do we support him? How many chemists in business are there who do not subscribe to the P.A.T.A., yet are ready to pocket the extra profits made for them? Who has fought for us, behind Lloyd George, to secure our legitimate work? Who will still fight for us to get fair remuneration? The non-subscribers to the P.A.T.A. ought to be ashamed of

themselves. Let pharmacists who are in business set to work, clean their establishments, have their boots on at 8.30 A.M., and not wear slippers and smoke their pipes at noon. Cut down expenses if need be, so as to buy in the best market, secure all discounts, get quotations from several houses for all drug orders of 5*l.* or more in value. If the drug business does not occupy full time, tack on a side-line suitable for the district. Never mind the critics.

Proposed Chemists' Unions.

Mr. L. Morcton Parry (Liverpool) sends us some verses about the chemist who passes his hours from morn till midnight among shining rows of glass, the little he gets for it, and the less owing to the greed of the doctor who “brags of eight-and-six.” The rest is told in Mr. Parry's verses, thus:

Till his tortured soul no longer

Can control the bursting flame.

Feels the strength within him gather,

Makes his mind to play the game.

Cries, “I'll earn a modest living

By the rights of skill attained

In pursuit of mine own calling,

And I'll be no longer chained.

For the weapons of my fathers,

Out of date and useless prove.

Scrap them all; and now, my brothers,

Hang tradition—let us move.

Ancient academic tactics.

Cannot win the business fight.

Sycophants, and their gymnastics,

Fail to hide the dawning light.

Scrap the useless institutions—

Fortresses of crumbling clay;

Build anew on sound foundations,

Dare not lose another day.

Hail! the coming Chemists' Union!

Join your comrades, never pause;

Fling away all superstition,

Cowards never won a cause.

Arm, and concentrate your efforts

On a definite fighting plan.

March together; choose your leaders,

Prove the chemist still a MAN!”

Mr. Arthur E. Bailey (Highgate), Secretary of the Middlesex Pharmacists' Association, writes in regard to the formation of many new Associations of chemists and the organisation brought about by the National Insurance Act, and suggests that a National Executive Council for pharmacy should be formed. He would, starting with existing county and other local Associations, link up the counties into groups of six, forming a committee for each of the six counties so federated. This committee might consist of twelve members, each county committee appointing two. The eighty-six counties for Great Britain, divided into groups of six, would produce fourteen or fifteen Federated Counties Committees, each of which would appoint two members to serve on the Executive Council of a National Pharmaceutical Federation. This is Mr. Bailey's trade union, of which he says:

Our trade union should be essentially a union of working pharmacists engaged in retail business, and although perhaps all branches of pharmacy should be represented, working retail pharmacists should predominate on these committees. Is there any reason why such an Executive should not boldly approach the manufacturers of patent medicines and demand a better profit for all the chemists it represents? Could it not secure shorter hours and better prices all round? Could it not buy drugs at lower prices and supply its members? Could it not absorb the C.D.A. and P.A.T.A., and do their work even better than it is done now? Is there any reasonable limit to the power of such an organisation if it represents every chemist who is a member of every local association? Would it not be a power to be reckoned with in all future legislative proposals which affect the trade? What is needed to make this federation an actual fact? First, the desire; second, more of the spirit of unanimity and brotherly feeling among pharmacists; and, third, the men—one man in each county who will bring about this unanimity among his fellows.

Mr. Bailey concludes with the remark “that great changes are coming to pharmacy during the next few years, and we shall meet them better if we stand together, rather than if we each seek our own selfish ends. Can we

not inaugurate with the new year a new era for pharmacy?"

Of all Respectable Chemists.

SIR,—The letter of "Ich Dien" (*C. & D.*, December 28) will not, I think, commend itself to the bulk of your readers. He says, "I gave him an order and very soon sent a repeat. This was entirely due to the fact that I spoke highly of the article." And a little lower down he says of the *same article*, "A shake of the head with a shrug of the shoulders is all the recommendation it gets." I often see remarks in your estimable journal as to the status of pharmacists, and the confidence the public ought to or do repose in them; but remarks like these do not tend to create this confidence or maintain it when created. To recommend an article because I get a profit out of it, and to discount it because of some act of the proprietors, does not seem to me to be worthy of a great profession, and one which should at the present time especially show itself worthy of confidence and a pattern of integrity. Suppose one of his customers came and gave a repeat order, the first order being given on the pharmacist's recommendation, will the shrug and shake satisfactorily explain the position, or will it not rather lead the customer to think there is something behind the transaction which does not appear on the surface? I have lived long enough to realise that confidence once lost is tremendously hard to regain. Chemists must live, but they must also deal with their customers transparently.

Yours very truly,
WM. BOUSFIELD.

Subscribers' Symposium.

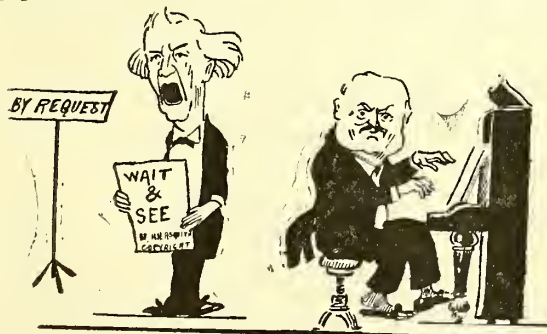
For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Cards of the Season.

Mr. James P. Gilmour (Glasgow) gives quite a pharmaceutical touch to his New Year's Day card, which reads thus:

"That the New Year may insure you against all scathe and sorrow, nationally or cosmically, or both, as your lot may be, and bestow on you and your kith and kin largess of fortune, grace, and felicity, is the warmest wish and fondest hope of yours in the communion of friendship and the fellowship of Pharmacy."

A *Provincial Pharmacist* (173/64) whose letters frequently appear in the correspondence columns of a newspaper in a neighbouring city, sometimes signed "Country Pharmacist" and other times "Rural Rambler," received the following cartoon at Christmas from the staff of the paper:



It was inscribed:

Concert in aid of
The Local Pharmacist and Ramblers' Association.
With compliments of the season.

The times we live in are so hard,
I can't afford a stylish card;
So please accept the one I send.
Your humble and very hard-up friend,
"THE LOCAL JOKER."

Golden Eye-ointment.

Ung. hydrarg. oxid. flavi has been and is supplied when this article is asked for in Forfarshire, so far as known to *Delta* (171/6).

Singleton's Golden Eye-ointment, advertised and sold by a London firm, has been before the public many years, and

is prepared with the red oxide of mercury, and at the present time is sold under this name in the North.—*Pharmacist* (177/72).

Appreciations.

"I have pleasure in enclosing my subscription for the *C. & D.*, your 'rare and refreshing fruit' for chemists, many pounds' worth of value for ten shillings."—*F. B. P.* (66/18).

"What a splendid volume this year's *Diary* is! I said last year it was a marvel how you kept up the interest and made each *Diary* so unique and interesting, and I wonder still more this year. The book alone is well worth the annual subscription, let alone the fifty-two weeks of interesting news, advice, and information contained in each individual number of your deservedly popular journal. Long may it prosper!"—*W. Bousfield*.

Legal Queries.

Before writing about your difficulty consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' *Diary*," 1913, pp. 211-242 and pp. 457-459, where most legal difficulties are anticipated.

L. L. E. (176/52).—APOTHECARIES' ASSISTANTS have, as such, no special rights in regard to Insurance Act dispensing, and any dispensing that they do in chemists' or companies' shops must be done under the supervision of a registered chemist.

M. P. W. (139/39).—THE USE OF MINERALISED METHYLATED SPIRIT.—Any person who is not a licensed vendor of this spirit may employ it for manufacturing purposes, as in the case of soap-liniment, without the express permission of the Excise authorities, but licensed vendors must get this permission.

Caput (175/27).—INDUSTRIAL METHYLATED SPIRIT.—Full particulars are given in our *Diary*, p. 239, regarding the steps to be taken in order to get official permission to use industrial spirit in the preparation of hair-lotions. It is unnecessary to repeat in these columns any information already given in the *Diary*.

Minor (172/65).—THE DISPENSING PANEL of the Insurance Act is strictly confined to those who may legally carry on the business of a chemist. A person who has failed in the Minor examination but who is an apothecary's assistant by examination cannot be put on the dispensing panel, but on the drugs and appliances panel.

Muc. Acac. (172/3).—INSURANCE ACT DISPENSING.—If the superintendent of the company cannot supervise the dispensing of prescriptions it will be necessary for the company to employ a qualified person to dispense these. A registered chemist will be preferable to an ex-doctor's dispenser, because the chemist may supervise the dispensing by other persons, while the ex-doctor's dispenser is not so empowered by law.

Elixir (171/33).—EXEMPTION OF PROPRIETARIES.—This correspondent has a proprietary cough preparation which has been sold for many years as a stamped medicine, and he asks if he abandons the proprietary rights to it can he sell it unstamped by quoting a registration number, still recommending it as a cure for certain human ailments? [Strictly speaking, no. Read the third paragraph under "Exemptions" on p. 273 of the *C. & D. Diary*, 1913; but if the preparation is sold under another name and not as or for the proprietary article, it may be brought under the exemption.]

Photo (66/19).—INSURANCE DISPENSING BY THE UNQUALIFIED.—See reply to "Minor." There is no provision in the National Insurance Act under which it is possible for unqualified persons carrying on business on their own account to get their names put on the dispensing panels. Cases have come under our notice in which such persons have turned their business into private limited companies, and employed registered chemists as managers, so as to conform with the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, thereby becoming eligible to go on the panel. That and passing the Minor examination are the only means provided by the Act for trade dispensing.

M. P. S. (174/58).—DISPENSARIES AND INSURANCE DISPENSING.—Our correspondent informs us that a Friendly Society in his district has applied to be put on the panel. The dispenser in charge is unqualified, although he has been over three years with a doctor. Can the Society be allowed to go on the panel if the dispensary is in charge of a qualified chemist? [Friendly Societies cannot be put on the dispensing

panel or medical panel. By Section 15 (4) of the Act (the Harmsworth amendment) any institution existing on December 16, 1911, for providing medical attendance and treatment may continue to give such with the approval of the Insurance Committee and Insurance Commissioners. The regulations make no provision for putting such institutions on the panels, and they cannot trade in the ordinary sense of the term. See the wording of the sub-section in the *C. & D. Diary*, p. 458.]

Referee (173/53).—DISPENSING TARIFF PROBLEMS.—(1) How frequently is it proposed to revise the tariff for the supply of drugs under the National Insurance Act? [The tariff will be revised at least once a year, and it is not probable that the one just issued will be revised for six months.] (2) Will chemists be able to charge any higher than the schedule prices before an official revision of the prices takes place? For example, ol. santal. flav. has to be dispensed at 1s. 6d. per oz., which is approximately one-twelfth of the wholesale druggists' price per lb. for this article before the recent rise of, approximately, cent. per cent. took place. Rapid increases of price of this nature in the cost of drugs are taking place just now with unpleasant frequency, and we shall be glad to know if the pharmacist has any latitude allowed to him to meet cases of this sort. [The ol. santal. flav. anomaly is known to pharmacy's representatives, but such variations in prices are inevitable in the fixing of national tariffs. We are simply experiencing what German pharmacists have complained of for many years. In fixing upon the prices the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee took into consideration the frequency and infrequency with which certain articles are prescribed, and that is the only "latitude" in the matter.] (3) Before the pharmacist's charges for dispensing are passed for payment, will the rates of every prescription dispensed by him be checked? If so, will these prices be checked by qualified chemists? It would appear to be essential if the Insurance doctors are permitted to write their prescriptions in Latin and use the ordinary dispensing symbols for drachms and ounces. [See the replies to "Imprimis" and "C. O. D." in the *C. & D.*, December 28. The Insurance Commissioners are at present formulating the conditions upon which pharmacy inspectors will be appointed for indoor and outdoor work in connection with this and other matters. A large number of pharmacists have applied to the Insurance Commissioners to be appointed inspectors.] (4) Doctors are in the habit of prescribing tablets in twenty-fives, and not in quantities of twenty-four. Would the chemist be within his rights in charging as if he had dispensed three dozen tablets, which would mean a dispensing charge of 5d., or would he have to send one tablet less so as to make the quantity twenty-four, and so reduce his dispensing charge to 4d.? [The five kinds of tablets mentioned in the tariff are to be charged at the rate of 4d. per dozen—that is, a third of a penny each—and for any of the specified tablets the charge for twenty-five would be 8½d. and not 1s.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

H. H. (168/61).—HYDATIDS in children are so rare in this country that we think you must be in error in your surmise. They are notoriously difficult to diagnose, even by a skilled physician. Pulmonary or venous engorgement symptoms may be caused according to the size and situation, or their presence may merely be suspected by the enlargement of the liver which results. The most certain method of diagnosis is aspiration of the cyst and the finding of hooklets in the fluid. The only treatment is surgical.

J. Co. (175/50).—TINCTURE OF INDIAN BARK.—You will find the formula for this in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," ed. viii., p. 804.

F. W. (190/34).—Several prescriptions similar to yours are described on pp. 361-2 of "The Art of Dispensing," with full particulars as to how they should be compounded.

Edired (171/10).—You will find in our issue of December 7, 1912, index folio 870, a note on books dealing with Truss-

FITTING, and in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1911, an illustrated article upon ELECTRIC BATTERIES and cognate matters.

Capitum (175/27).—To TEST FOR EPSOM SALTS in linen or damask, dip a piece of the linen for half an hour in an ounce or two of warm distilled water and apply the usual reagents for magnesium and sulphuric acid.

G. H. W. (Natal) (169/24).—(1) GREASY HAIR.—Your customer should wash the hair frequently with hot water and spirit-soap (equal parts S.V.R. and sapo mollis B.P.). At the same time the intake of fats and carbohydrates should be reduced. (2) We know of no cheap soluble substitute for antipyrin.

Tolut. (167/65).—We do not think that rhyming aids for remembering pharmacy and materia-medica facts such as Judd's are now obtainable. It is some years since we saw a copy of a book of this kind.

W. F. G. (167/52).—DYEING BRISTLES BLACK.—The dark solid to which your customer refers is doubtless extract of logwood. It is used in conjunction with an iron salt. The bristles are first soaked in an iron solution (ferrous sulphate is generally employed) and then are transferred to the logwood solution.

R. M. L. (172/40).—DICTIONARIES OF MEDICINE.—Quain's "Dictionary of Medicine" (Longmans, 21s.); "The Practitioners' Guide" (Longmans, 21s.); "Index of Treatment" (Simpkin, 21s.); Thomson and Steele's "Dictionary of Domestic Medicine" (Griffin, 10s. 6d.).

Elixir (171/33).—MEDICINE-CHEST FOR INDIA.—The drugs that should be contained in a medicine-chest for use in India should include quinine sulphate (for fevers), chlorodyne (for bowel-troubles), pil. col. et hyoscy. c. podoph., Dover's powder in tablet form, and powdered boric acid (for lotions and as a dusting-powder). Some of the wholesale houses, such as Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., Burroughs Wellcome & Co., and Oppenheimer, Son & Co., Ltd., supply special medicine-chests for India.

F. G. B. (153/4).—DISEASES OF CATTLE.—The book to which you seem to be referring is Moussu and Dollar's "Diseases of Cattle, Sheep, Goats, and Swine" (Gay & Bird, 25s.), but the first-named author is not a German but a Frenchman. Armatage's "Cattle-doctor," the seventh edition of which is dated 1899, is published at 21s.

T. B. (151/53).—DOMESTIC MEDICINE.—We do not know a book on household medicine that is arranged in tabular form, but we should think that one of the simpler treatises would suit your customer. Sonnenschein publishes a 2s. 6d. book by Walters, "The Home Doctor," while a shilling book is Kesteven's "Home Doctoring" (Warne).

J. H. D. (173/3).—SHAMPOO-POWDER FOR DRY USE.—The following are references to formulæ given in recent issues of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST: March 23, 1912, index folio 460, March 18, 1911, index folio 417; July 29, 1911, index folio 226; and November 25, 1911, index folio 800.

Remija (160/63).—COLOURING MIXTURE.—A little tincture of cudbear with or without caramel would probably give the colour you require for the cold mixture.

A. G. S. (159/66).—CONFECTIONERY VARNISH, used for chocolates, etc. The following are two formulæ:

A.		B.	
Benzoin	25.6 parts	Tolu balsam	5 parts
Resin	6.4 parts	Shellac	1 part
Spirit	100 parts	Spirit	20 parts

W. R. W. (165/8).—MARBLE MORTARS of the pattern you sketch in your letter have no value to a collector. Such mortars are commonly used in the household, and can be bought new at any ironmonger's, but they are inferior to the composition mortars such as are employed in the pharmacy.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," Jan. 15, 1863.

Early Standards.

Mr. Joseph Ince suggests that the Pharmaceutical Society should supply from its central laboratory four classes of pharmacopœial preparations—viz., distilled waters, extracts, spirits, and tinctures—as there would then exist a series of definite and reliable preparations within the known reach of every member.